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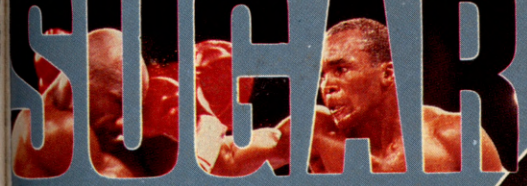
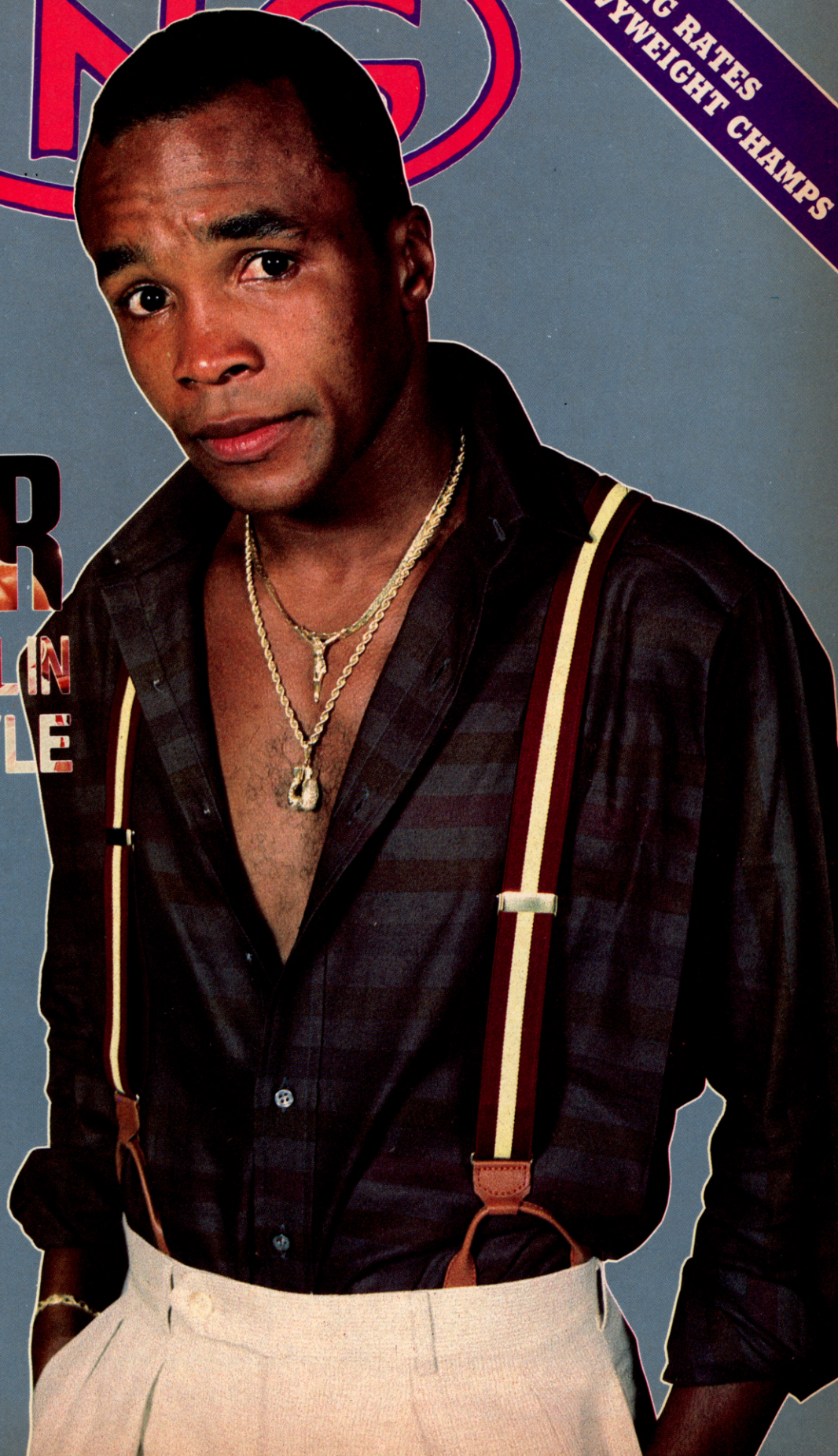
RING RATES THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPS

SUGAR RAY STILL IN STYLE





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The RING

The bible of boxing

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RingSide

Does anyone besides the Newark, New Jersey branch of the Alphabet Boys think "Diamond" Jim MacDonald really deserved two cracks at the light heavyweight title?

One crack?

His first challenge, against Michael Spinks in 1985, was a borderline case, but his second shot against Bobby Czyz was an absolute farce. Between his two title tries, MacDonald had six bouts, losing two ... one inside the distance to the ever-popular Arthell Lawhorne.

Yet despite his shaky credentials, MacDonald was approved by IBF president Bob Lee as an official challenger for Czyz and the match was purchased by ABC-TV for national consumption. One can only assume quality control, at both IBF and ABC headquarters, was "out to lunch" when the decision was made.

However, the problem of grossly undeserving challengers didn't originate with MacDonald, ABC-TV or even the IBF. Throughout boxing history, an occasional tomato can would be foisted upon the public, disguised as a contender. The optimum word here is "occasional." This phenomenon only became a major problem with the advent of the Alphabet Boys. With split titles and endless lists of challengers, an occasional problem soon became a "frequent" one.

Even when an undeserving challenger lucks out and wins a title, he often ends up the loser in the long run. Leon Spinks and Davey Moore (who won world titles with less then 10 pro bouts under their belts) are two fairly recent examples. Both were obviously totally unprepared to be champion and quickly fell by the wayside when called upon to reign over their respective divisions.

Can anything be done to solve this dilemma that is cheating both the sport of boxing and the paying public out of legitimate world championship bouts? Well, don't hold your breath. But it is our fervent hope that *The Ring's* new policy of rating just 10 contenders in only the eight traditional divisions is the first step toward drastically reducing the number of unworthy challengers fighting for world titles.

Nigel Collins

THE RING

August, 1987 Vol LXVI, No. 6

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COME OUT WRITING

TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND

APRIL FIRST. WHEN I GOT THE PHONE call, my first thought was that it was a warped April Fool's joke. But all too quickly I realized it was no joke. My best friend, Pat Cuillo, had died suddenly of heart failure. I'm sitting here, writing this with his picture in front of me, and I am sure going to miss him. He used to tell me he loved me a lot, and me being a typical fighter type, well, I used to get a little nervous hearing those words coming out of a man's mouth. But let me tell you, I loved Pat Cuillo. He was my son's godfather, and was going to be the best man at my upcoming wedding. Pat was only 32 years old at the time of his death. He turned pro as a middleweight and in one of his early bouts, he defeated Mustafa Hamsho. Pat ended up with a record of 22-10. He fought a few notable opponents, going the distance with Dwight Muhammad Qawi and Eddie Mustafa Muhammad. In his last few fights, Pat fought under the name of Vic Valentino because, as he put it, "it sounds more melodious and it's easier to remember."

Well, I'll always remember him. He left behind a wife, Tammy, and a newborn son, Patrick A. III, and a daughter from a previous marriage, Erin Nicole. He was, at one time, the US Navy middleweight champion and also a veteran of the Viet Nam war. And as I said, he was my best friend.

I love you, Pat. Keep punching.

TEDDY MANN
Toms River, N.J.

TYSON OVER-RATED

WHAT WAS ALREADY EASY TO SEE after Mike Tyson's boring encounters with Quick Tillis and Mitch Green can no longer be denied after his so-called fight against Bonecrusher Smith. Tyson is just a muscled-up street fighter who is great at chopping down a stationary target, but doesn't have enough skills to decisively beat someone who is clever enough to tie him up. Don't let me hear you comparing him with all-time greats. Liston would have knocked him silly and Ali would have made a monkey out of him. Let's just hope Evander Holyfield moves up to the heavyweight division and ends this whole Tyson affair.

GERD RAABE
Vienna, Austria

LEONARD-HAGLER CONTROVERSY CONTINUES

I'M DISGUSTED. FIRST I'D LIKE Hagler to know that I think he ought to change his first name again. It sure isn't Marvelous anymore. And how about sharing his millions with all us fans who bet big bucks on the once great champion? I guess when it comes to big money, a great champ can easily turn into a great chump. My respect is gone, Marvin.

And to Mr. Sugar "Run-Away" Leonard, you didn't prove a thing to me and many other fight fans. I can't see being declared winner of a fight when you never even fought. Anybody can throw sweet little punches and run away.

You two guys fooled the public and if you decide to have a rematch, you can bet I'll put my ticket money in the bank. And that's one bet you can count on.

MAXINE GRIMES
Flushing, N.Y.

Someone once said: "Some people see things as they are and ask why. I see things as they should be and ask why not." Well Sugar Ray, you saw and you conquered. Let the world always remember the night of April 6, 1987 and the final chapter of your remarkable boxing career. For you should be finally able to say: "Free at last. Thank God almighty, I'm free at last."

J.C. DAVIS
Jacksonville, N.C.

I watched the closed-circuit telecast of the Leonard-Hagler fight very closely. While I thought Sugar Ray put up a great fight, in my mind, there is no way that he lifted Marvin's title. Leonard's fast combinations and attempts to goat Mr. Hagler by dropping his hands and mugging were eye-catching, but not particularly effective. Marvin was the constant aggressor throughout the 12 rounds, and though he was at times outboxed, he was never out-fought. Many of Ray's flurries either missed or lacked sufficient power to bother the champ. To Leonard's credit, he was able to escape or punch out of trouble, but after the first four rounds, he basically fought a survival fight. I believe anyone who watched the match carefully realized Marvin Hagler, as defending champion, should have retained his title. I hope many others will join with me in demanding a rematch. As far as this fan is concerned, Mr. Hagler is still the middleweight champion of the world.

JEFFRY COLLINS
Montreal, Canada

I've just witnessed the Leonard-Hagler fight on closed circuit. It was a tremendous fight. I am not a judge, but Hagler could not have possibly lost all but two rounds. Judge Jo Jo Guerra might have been thinking of another fight when he marked his scorecard. I hope he has his license revoked.

FRANCISCO MARTINEZ
Houston, Texas

Editor's Note: While the above is just a small sample of the avalanche of mail THE RING has received concerning the Leonard-Hagler bout, letters have been running approximately 3-to-1 against the official decision.

Round One

Phill Marder

JOSE CAN YOU HEAR?

Would you invite **Jose Sulaiman** to your birthday party?

Top Rank, Inc. did when it celebrated its seventh year on ESPN recently.

During the Las Vegas-based show, **Bob Arum** took center stage to introduce a host of celebrities. There were plenty on hand with the Ray Leonard-Marvin Hagler fight just a few days away, and each was greeted with respect as Arum reeled off the roll call—each but Jose Sulaiman, that is.

At the mere mention of the WBC president's name, beer cups and hot dogs were put aside and conversation stopped as the fans in attendance welcomed Arum's introduction with a fusillade of boos. Jose was undaunted, though, informing the crowd he was accustomed to such welcomes, or something to that effect. It's difficult to remember exactly what he said because no one really pays attention to Jose, anyway.

Sulaiman gave a speech while the crowd continued its hooting and jeering, leaving Arum more than a little embarrassed.

But, the best was yet to come. Having completed his name-dropping, Arum thought he'd give the fans another chance to properly greet Sulaiman, offering two free tickets to Hagler-Leonard to he who could cheer the loudest for the WBC prez.

"Booooo" came the response.

"Thank you," said Arum as he quickly exited the ring.

KING CROWNED?

If Bob Arum's around, can **Don King** be far behind?

King tried to muscle his way into the ring following the Leonard-Hagler fight only to be quickly rebuffed by Arum. What ensued could have eclipsed the main event had not cooler minds prevailed.

Ross Levinsohn, who works for Arum's publicity firm of Lapin & Rose, was in the middle of the whole mess. Levinsohn recalled, "I saw Don going up the ring steps and went over to Bob Arum and told him Don King was trying to get into the ring. Bob grabbed Don's coat, and Don said, 'Get off me.' Myself and **Jay Larkin** grabbed onto Don when he and Bob squared off, but some security guards came down and escorted Don away. I didn't see it or feel it, but one security guard said King had a gun on him.

"According to King, he just wanted to congratulate Ray," Levinsohn added. "Maybe the way it was handled was wrong, but in Bob's mind, King had no business being there. Bob has said to forget it, but believe me there are plenty of people who would like to pursue it."

The Ring would love to pursue it and is presently engaged in negotiations with the Duvas and J. Russell Peltz to promote an Arum/King fight. Sulaiman is likely to sanction the bout for one of the WBC junior junior championships. However, Jose will, no doubt, insist on a 12-round limit to protect the physical welfare of both promoters.

The next SuperFight might be Bob Arum (left) vs. Don King, especially after their ringside fracas following the Leonard-Hagler bout in Las Vegas. Read "King Crowned" for details.

DOWN FOR THE COUNT

Florida correspondent Lou Zipkin reports that **Ray Miller,** an outstanding lightweight and referee, passed away March 31, a victim of lung cancer at age 82.

Miller never fought for the title but defeated several champions and was the only fighter to knock out **Jimmy McLarnin.** He also split two decisions with Billy Petrolle and knocked out Sid Terris in one round. Miller fought 10 years without being stopped.

Afer his retirement, Miller refereed hundreds of fights, including many championship bouts.

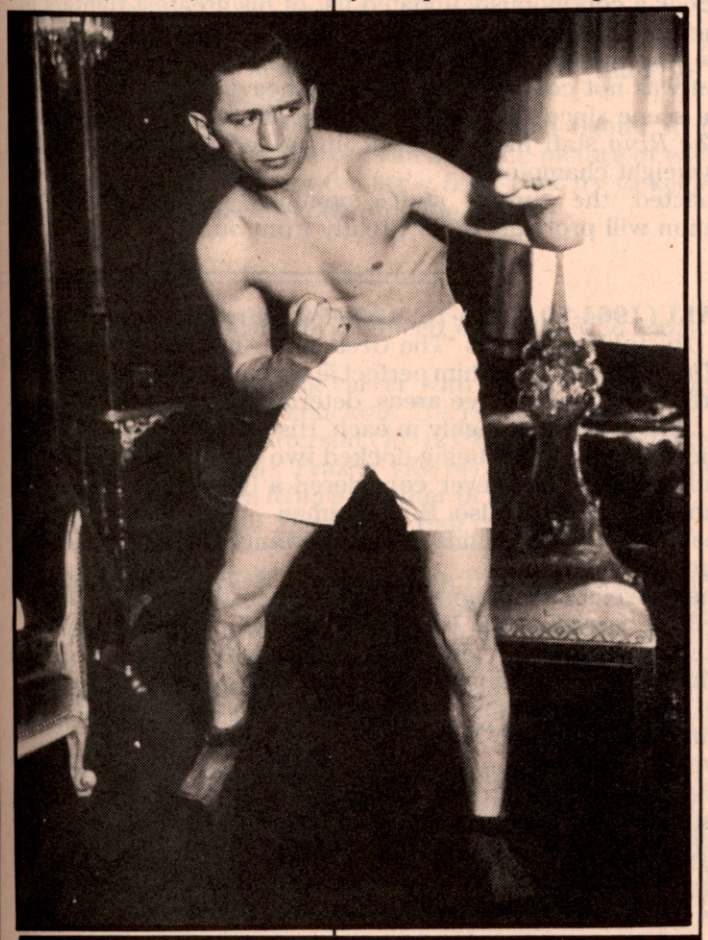
Miller is survived by his wife, Mary, a daughter, Norma Banas, two granddaughters and a sister.

ROSIN DUST

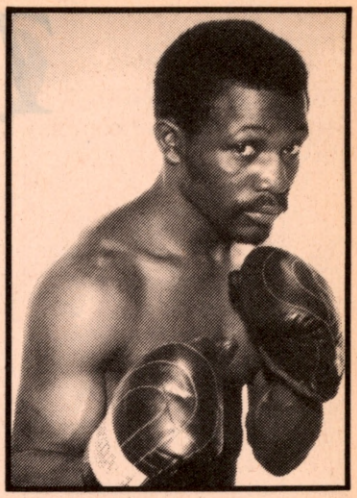
The WBC Sports Medicine Foundation recently sponsored a tribute to former English heavyweight con-

Round One

tender **Henry Cooper.** The affair, featuring dinner and dancing, was held in London's Royal Lancaster Hotel. Cooper survived without bleeding ... Not present were **Joanne Metallo, Lady Tyger** and **Del "LaRose" Pettis,** three female boxers on a hunger strike. Said Tyger, "I have been in boxing for 12 years and have been denied an equal opportunity in the occupation of my choice, boxing. Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson said he would 'die for what he believes in.' I told Mike, 'I feel the same way.'" ... Author **Ben Olan's** "100 Greatest Athletes of the Century" was all set to go to print when **Ray Leonard** pulled his upset of **Marvin Hagler.** Stop the presses. Room had to be made for Leonard, so **Willie Pep** was bumped. Now we know the real reason for Leonard's comeback ... **Michael Dokes,** sentenced to five years probation for possession of cocaine in February, found himself jailed without bail following an arrest on drug and probation charges. Dokes was arrested after his 1987 Cadillac was observed speeding and swerving down a Las Vegas street ... Speaking of courts, judge **Frank Brunette** filed a slander suit against **Larry Holmes,** claiming he was defamed by comments Holmes made after his rematch loss to Michael Spinks. Holmes reportedly made allegations that Brunette was a dinner guest of Spinks' associates the night before the fight and that Brunette had been paid off to favor Spinks. Holmes also reportedly accused Brunette of being intoxicated while judging the bout. And **Jo Jo Guerra** thinks the **Petronellis** are bad ... And speaking of courts, former WBC junior middleweight champion **Maurice Hope** has declared bankruptcy. The 35-year-old Hope told a London bankruptcy court he is penniless and over $100,000 in debt ... Trainer **"Slim" Jim Robinson** recently opened "Slim's Gym" in Philadelphia ... Madison Square Garden matchmaker **Bob Goodman** is appearing as a regular guest on MSG's network and WNBC's "SportsNight With Dave Sims" program, fielding suggestions from callers for possible matches. "I want to make the matches the fans want to see," said Goodman. How about Bob Arum versus Don King?



Former lightweight contender Ray Miller, the only man to knock out Jimmy McLarnin, passed away recently in Florida.



Former WBC junior middleweight champion Maurice Hope has declared bankruptcy.

PUNCH LINES

When asked what career he would have chosen if he had not been a baseball player, St. Louis Cardinal infielder **Jose Oquendo** replied, "I'd be a boxer." Can a WBC junior championship fight be far behind?

Meanwhile, Oakland A's pitcher **Joaquin Andujar** was quoted as saying, "I would like to be like Sugar Ray Leonard or Marvin Hagler. You get $10 million for about half an hour, and you don't take anything from anybody." How about your opponent, Joaquin?

Then, we have Giants' outfielder **Chili Davis.** The Giants opened the season the night of the Hagler-Leonard fight, with Davis driving in the winning run in the 12th inning. When asked if it was a thrill to deliver the game-winning hit on opening day, Davis replied, "Nah, I just wanted to go home and see the fight." □

THE RING'S NEW ALL-TIME RA HEAVY CHAM

FEW TOPICS OF CONVERSATION STIR THE BLOOD OR GET THE BEER FLOWING like a good debate over the merits of heavyweight champions.

Who was the greatest heavyweight of all time? Who was the worst?

Ask either question in a bar, and you'll get plenty of opinions. Some will be educated, some will be worthless. But a reaction is sure to come.

Until his death in 1972, *The Ring*'s founder, Nat Fleischer, included as part of *The Ring Record Book* a continuously updated list of his greatest fighters in each weight class. There is no question Fleischer was knowledgeable, but there is also no question he was extremely partial to fighters from the early 1900s.

Fleischer's tradition was not continued and several heavyweight champions have appeared on the scene since 1972, some of them great, some not so hot. With this in mind, *The Ring* staff has set about updating *The Ring*'s official rankings of the heavyweight champions.

As would be expected, the current staff's opinions vary greatly from Fleischer's. Your opinion will probably differ greatly from ours.

Muhammad Ali

1. MUHAMMAD ALI (1964-70, 1974-78, 1978-79): From the very beginning, "The Louisville Lip" told us he was "The Greatest." And, he was right. In assessing Ali's skills, *The Ring* staff rated him perfect in seven of 10 categories.

Ali fell short of perfection in only three areas, determination, cut resistance and punching power, though he rated highly in each. His tendency to not go all out against inferior foes resulted in his being docked two points for determination. While a solid puncher, Ali was never considered a true power puncher, resulting in an eight in that category, also. Being human—we believe—he was not impervious to bleeding, receiving a nine in cut resistance, the highest score awarded in that category.

Ali won the world heavyweight championship three times, the first as Cassius Clay when he stunned the sports world by making the supposedly invincible Sonny Liston quit after six rounds. He defended eight times before a federal grand jury indicted him for failure to submit to the draft. Though he was inactive during 1968 and 1969, *The Ring* continued to recognize him as champion until he announced his retirement Feb. 3, 1970.

Joe Frazier took over as champion, and Ali came back to challenge "Smokin' Joe," only to lose a 15-round decision in 1971. Three years later, Ali, supposedly well past his prime, stunned the sports world once again, regaining his crown by flattening George Foreman, who had taken the title from Frazier. Ten successful defenses followed before Ali was upset by Leon Spinks in 1978. Later that same year, he grabbed the title back from Spinks, then announced his retirement the following year.

AND IMPROVED
ING OF THE
EIGHT
PIONS

Notice that only heavyweight champions are considered. Several outstanding heavyweights never captured the world championship. Also, only champions recognized by *The Ring* are eligible. WBC, WBA or IBF title belts are a dime a dozen, and so-called "world champions" such as John Tate and Greg Page are, too. Don't look for them here.

Champions still active—such as Michael Spinks—are not included as *The Ring* feels it would be unfair to rate fighters before their careers are finished. However, George Foreman and Leon Spinks have been included as we feel neither, though still active, will accomplish anything to improve his status from a historical perspective.

The accompanying chart is based on each fighter in his prime. It is not foolproof, but we feel it presents an accurate picture of each of the champions. So, let the words begin, let the brew flow—but try to keep the bloodshed to a minimum. Remember, it's only opinion.

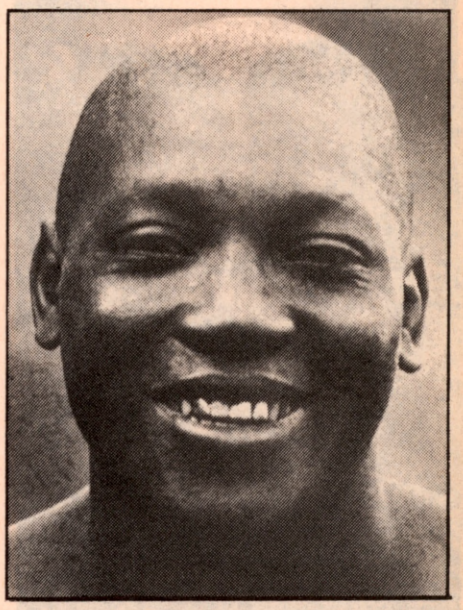
An ill-advised comeback produced only losses to Larry Holmes and Trevor Berbick.

Ali finished his glittering career with 56 wins against only five losses, 37 of the victories coming by knockout. His record against other heavyweight champions: Liston (KO7); Patterson (KO12); Frazier (L15); Patterson (KO7); Frazier (W12); Foreman (KO8); Frazier (KO14); Spinks (L15); Spinks (W15); Holmes (KOby11). Named *The Ring*'s "Fighter of the Year" in 1972, 1974, 1975 and 1978. Eligible for election to *The Ring*'s Hall of Fame this year.

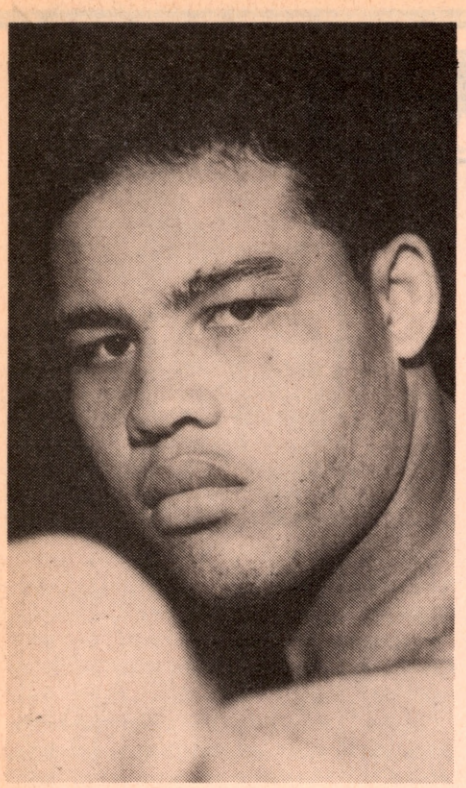
2. JACK JOHNSON (1908-1915): For those who believe in reincarnation, we present Jack Johnson, the forerunner of Ali. "The Galveston Giant" was a near-perfect fighting machine. Like Ali, he received less-than-excellent scores in just two categories, determination and punching power, though he ranked highly in each. Similar to Ali, Johnson often gave less than 100 percent against inferior foes. Also like Ali, Johnson was a good hitter, though not a devastating one-punch knockout artist.

However, Johnson was the first heavyweight champ to utilize combination punching. In fact, he was way ahead of his time in this regard and a true innovator in the art of modern boxing methods. As the first black heavyweight champion, Johnson is one of just six to receive a perfect 10 in historical importance.

The Negro champion since 1903, Johnson did not get a shot at the world title until Tommy Burns relented in 1908. Johnson made the most of his opportunity, battering Burns into defeat in 14 rounds. Again like Ali, Johnson was hounded



Jack Johnson



Joe Louis

by the United States government, though for different reasons. Still, he defended his title nine times before losing to Jess Willard at the age of 37.

Johnson fought on until 1928, though never getting the opportunity to regain his title. He finished his career 78-8-12 with 45 knockouts and 14 no decisions. His record against other heavyweight champions: Hart (L20); Fitzsimmons (KO2); Burns (KO14); Jeffries (KO15); Willard (KOby26). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.

3. JOE LOUIS (1937-1949): For many, "The Brown Bomber" was the ultimate heavyweight king. And, it's certainly hard to knock Louis' 12-year reign, which produced a record 25 title defenses before he announced his retirement.

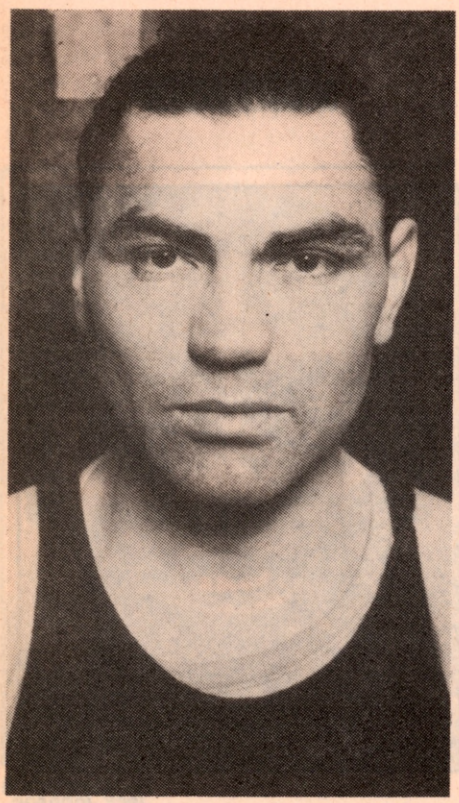
The Ring panel rates Louis perfect in five of 10 categories, including historical importance. Louis was one of just five to receive a 10 in punching power and only Ali and Patterson were deemed his equal in hand speed. However, Louis had certain flaws which keep him below Ali and Johnson in the all-time rankings. His foot speed was almost non-existent, and slick boxers such as Jersey Joe Walcott and Billy Conn proved particularly troublesome. It's difficult to envision Louis being able to beat Ali or Johnson when he could barely catch up to Conn, who was only a light heavyweight. Louis' chin and defense were also suspect. He was dropped 10 times.

Louis won the title with an eighth-round knockout of James J. Braddock and never lost it in the ring. He returned from retirement to lose a decision to his successor, Ezzard Charles, and finally retired for good after being knocked out by Rocky Marciano.

Louis finished his career 63-3 with 49 knockouts. His record against other heavyweight champions: Carnera (KO6); Baer (KO4); Schmeling (KOby12); Sharkey (KO3); Braddock (KO8); Schmeling (KO1); Walcott (W15); Walcott (KO11); Charles (L15); Marciano (KOby8). Named *The Ring*'s "Fighter of the Year" in 1936, 1938, 1939 and 1941. Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.

4. JACK DEMPSEY (1919-1926): "The Manassa Mauler" was a frightening figure in the ring, a wildcat with a punch like the kick of a mule. *The Ring*'s staff rated Dempsey perfect in three categories, the obvious being his punching power. Dempsey also received 10s for determination due to his non-stop aggressive style of fighting and historical impact, many of his fights becoming legendary.

Jack Dempsey



Due to the nature of his all-out attack, Dempsey's need for footwork and defense was virtually non-existent and his scores in those categories are a bit lower, though still good. His reluctance to meet black fighters resulted in a grade of seven for quality of opposition.

Dempsey won the crown with a third-round demolition of the hulking Jess Willard. Though conceding five inches in height and 58 pounds to the 6-6 Willard, Dempsey was unstoppable, flooring the giant champion seven times in the first round only to see Willard saved by the bell. His legend grew even though he defended the title successfully just five times thanks to his wipeout of the popular Georges Carpentier and his unbelievable brawl with Luis Firpo. By the time he faced Gene Tunney, Dempsey was 31 and hadn't fought for over two years. Tunney gave him a boxing lesson, then ended his career with another decision win in the famous "Battle of the Long Count."

Thankfully, Dempsey did not linger on. He finished his career 62-6-10 with 49 knockouts. His record against other heavyweight champions: Willard (KO3); Tunney (L10); Sharkey (KO7); Tunney (L10). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.

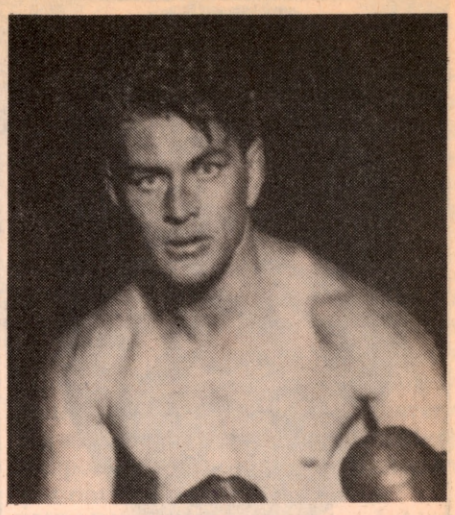
5. GENE TUNNEY (1926-28): "The Fighting Marine" has been one of history's most underrated champions, and those who believe in Tunney's ability may think he's underrated here. Even though he defeated Dempsey twice, Tunney ranks one point below Dempsey. Most concede Dempsey was past his prime and rusty by the time Tunney got to him, and the second match certainly could have concluded with Tunney being counted out had Dempsey gone to a neutral corner when he finally caught his nemesis in the famous seventh round of "The

Battle of the Long Count."

Tunney's failure to capitalize on his heavyweight championship hurts his score as far as historical impact is concerned, and his failure to meet blacks cost him in his grade for quality of opposition. He rates lowest in punching power since practically all of his knockouts were scored against middleweights or light heavyweights. Still, Tunney's career is remarkable. He suffered just two losses, a 15-round decision to middleweight great Harry Greb and an eight-round decision to future light heavy champ Tommy Loughran, though that bout was officially a no-contest. The Greb fight cost Tunney his American light heavyweight championship. But he took that title back from Greb in a rematch and beat Greb three more times just for good measure.

Tunney easily won the heavyweight crown from Dempsey, and the return match a year later was a blowout, save the "Long Count," which made it seem much tougher than it was. Tunney again was idle for almost a year before he finished his career with a knockout of Tom Heeney.

Overall, Tunney finished 65-2-1 with eight no decisions and one no contest. He had 43 KOs. His record against other heavyweight champions: Dempsey (W10); Dempsey (W10). First to be named *The Ring*'s "Fighter of the Year," winning the award in 1928. Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1955.



Gene Tunney

6. LARRY HOLMES (1980-85): "The Easton Assassin" was a controversial figure while active and is likely to remain such in his retirement—assuming he remains retired.

Holmes failed to receive any perfect grades. But he scored highly in most categories, particularly durability, thanks to his unquestionable gameness, which drove him forward in many situations that would have forced lesser men to quit. A master standup boxer with a punishing jab, Holmes would have given any heavyweight a stiff test. His lowest scores, though still better than average, came in punching power, cut resistance and historical impact. The latter would have been a perfect score had he equaled or eclipsed Rocky Marciano's record of retiring unbeaten in 49 fights. Holmes made it to 48 before losing to Michael Spinks. Still, an extra four points in that category would not have advanced him past Tunney.

Holmes won the WBC championship in 1978, but did not enter *The Ring*'s list of official champions until 1980 when he stopped former champ Ali in 11 rounds. He successfully defended 12 times before losing two decisions to Spinks.

Holmes, at this writing, is 48-2 with 34 knockouts. Let's hope his record remains just that. His mark against other heavyweight champions: Ali (KO11); Leon Spinks (KO3); Michael Spinks (L15); Michael Spinks (L15). Named *The Ring*'s "Fighter of the Year" in 1982.

Larry Holmes

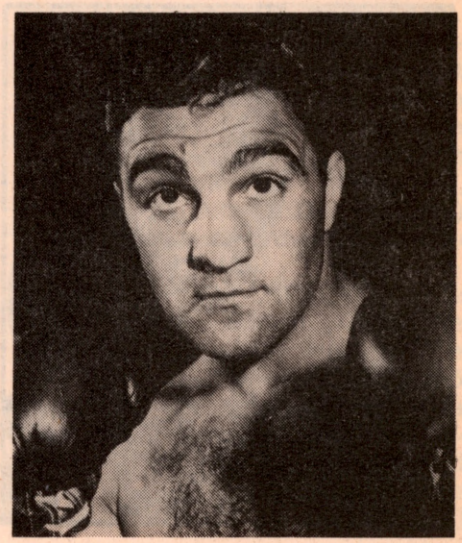
7. ROCKY MARCIANO (1952-56): "The Brockton Blockbuster" scored a perfect 49 in his career, but received just four perfect scores in *The Ring*'s assessment of his talents.

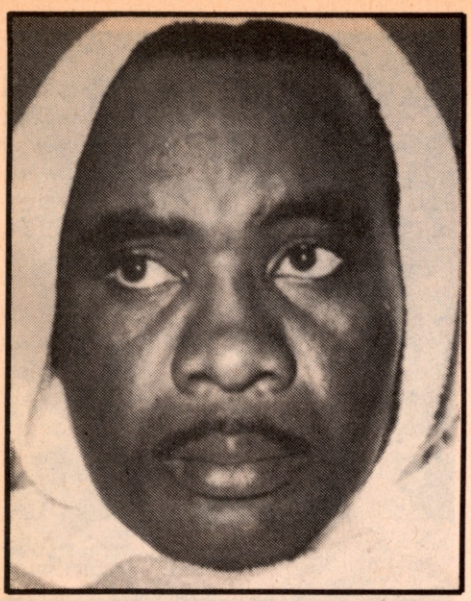
Like Holmes, Marciano would have provided life and death for any heavyweight who ever donned a pair of gloves. He gets perfect 10s in determination and durability and he may have been the hardest puncher of all time. Being the only heavyweight champion to retire without ever losing a fight guarantees Marciano's place in fistic history and a 10 in historical impact. But "The Rock" fell woefully short in some categories, particularly cut resistance. If Marciano was fighting today, it's unlikely he would be undefeated as he was prone to bleed heavily and fights are stopped much quicker. Like Dempsey, Marciano had little use for footwork and defense, letting his opponent worry about those formalities.

"The Rock" won the title with a 13th-round knockout of Jersey Joe Walcott in 1952 and defended the crown five times before retiring 49-0 with 43 knockouts.

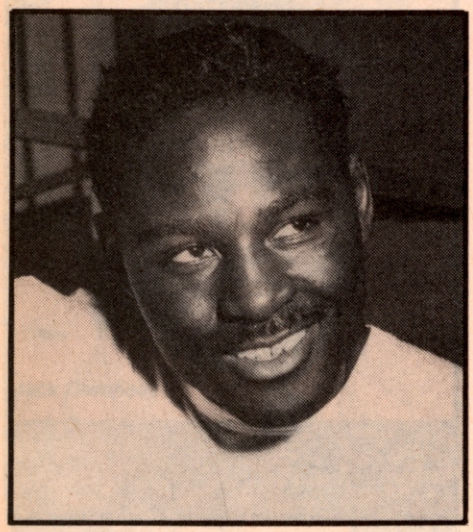
His record against other heavyweight champions: Louis (KO8); Walcott (KO13); Walcott (KO1); Charles (W15); Charles (KO8). Named *The Ring*'s "Fighter of the Year" in 1952, 1954 and 1955. Elected to *The Ring*'s Hall of Fame in 1959.

Rocky Marciano





Sonny Liston



Ezzard Charles

Jersey Joe Walcott

8. SONNY LISTON (1962-64): In the ring, Liston was everything a heavyweight champion should be, big, powerful and mean. When he won the title, he was considered invincible. Then came Ali, and Liston's bubble, not to mention his rating, burst. Still, *The Ring*'s panel considers Liston one of the best heavyweight champions in history. His jab was more powerful than many fighters' best shots, and "The Bear" rates a 10 in punching power, a score reserved for just four other heavyweight champions. His failings against Ali exposed his lack of determination, his shortcomings on defense and his lack of speed, but Ali would have exposed many other champions, also. In fact, an out-of-shape Liston, at the age of 31, going on 40, gave Ali a terrific battle in their first match.

Liston chased Floyd Patterson for several years before finally getting his chance at the heavyweight crown. He won the title by knocking out Patterson in one round, then repeated the trick in a rematch. But that was his only successful defense. He campaigned five years after losing his title, finishing his career 50-4 with 39 knockouts.

Liston's record against other heavyweight champions: Patterson (KO1); Patterson (KO1); Ali (KOby7); Ali (KOby1).

9. EZZARD CHARLES (1950-51): "The Cincinnati Razor" was a stylish fighter who fought the best heavyweights of his time, though he was actually a blown-up light heavy.

A sharp puncher, but not a devastating hitter, Charles receives his best grades for quality of opposition, hand speed, footwork and natural ability. Coming after Louis and before Marciano, Charles held the championship for less than a year and made little historical impact. However, the fighters who faced him, including several champions, always received a stern test.

Charles was named NBA heavyweight champ in 1949, beating Walcott on a 15-round decision for the crown vacated by Louis. He defended that title three times before decisioning the comebacking Louis in 1950 to gain *The Ring*'s recognition as world champion. Four successful defenses followed until Walcott ended his brief reign with a seven-round KO in 1951. Charles continued fighting until 1959, losing title matches to Walcott and Marciano (twice). His final record was 96-25-1 with 58 KOs.

Charles' record against other heavyweight champions: Walcott (W15); Louis (W15); Walcott (W15); Walcott (KOby7); Walcott (L15); Marciano (L15); Marciano (KOby8). Named *The Ring*'s "Fighter of the Year" in 1949 and 1950. Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1970.

9. JERSEY JOE WALCOTT (1951-52): Arnold Raymond Cream became the oldest ever to win the heavyweight crown when, at the age of 37, he knocked out Charles in the seventh round. He and Charles split four bouts and, fittingly, are tied in *The Ring's* rankings for ninth place on the all-time list.

Though receiving no perfect scores, Walcott ranked highly in quality of opposition and footwork, which was his trademark. Many fighters today—Sugar Ray Leonard against Marvin Hagler, for instance—borrow heavily from Jersey Joe's bag of tricks, particularly his knack for hitting an opponent, then walking away as if taking a leisurely stroll. While Walcott didn't receive any outstanding grades, he also didn't receive any poor ones. Suffice it to say that he was a solid, all-around technician who would have been a handful for any fighter in any era.

Walcott won the championship in his third meeting with Charles, though many felt he was robbed in an earlier loss to Louis. He surrendered the crown to Marciano, though he was leading "The Rock" when stopped in the 13th round. Walcott's complete rcord is unavailable, but his official log shows 50 wins, 18 losses and one draw with 30 KOs.

His record against other heavyweight champions: Louis (L15); Louis (KOby11); Charles (L15); Charles (L15); Charles (KO7); Charles (W15); Marciano (KOby13); Marciano (KOby1). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1969.

CHARTING THE CHAMPIONS

A few words of explanation about the 10 categories used in deciding *The Ring's* new all-time heavyweight ratings:

	Defense	Determination	Durability	Hand Speed	Foot Work	Punching Power	Cut Resistance	Natural Ability	Quality of Opposition	Historical Impact	Total
Muhammad Ali	10	8	10	10	10	8	9	10	10	10	95
Jack Johnson	10	8	9	9	9	8	9	10	9	10	91
Joe Louis	7	10	7	10	5	10	9	9	10	10	87
Jack Dempsey	6	10	9	8	5	10	9	7	7	10	81
Gene Tunney	9	9	8	9	9	5	7	9	7	8	80
Larry Holmes	8	8	9	8	8	6	6	8	8	6	75
Rocky Marciano	5	10	10	6	5	10	4	6	7	10	73
Sonny Liston	6	5	7	6	6	10	6	8	9	6	69
Ezzard Charles	7	6	6	8	8	6	6	8	9	4	68
Jersey Joe Walcott	6	7	7	7	8	6	7	6	8	6	68
Joe Frazier	5	10	7	6	5	7	6	6	7	7	66
Jim Jeffries	5	9	9	4	3	9	7	5	7	8	66
Floyd Patterson	5	9	3	10	7	6	7	7	5	6	65
Max Schmeling	6	7	6	6	6	7	6	6	8	7	65
James J. Corbett	7	6	5	7	7	4	7	6	6	8	63
Bob Fitzsimmons	5	8	8	5	4	7	7	6	7	6	63
Jack Sharkey	7	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	8	4	60
John L. Sullivan	5	8	8	3	3	8	6	3	5	10	59
Max Baer	6	3	5	6	5	8	6	7	7	5	58
James J. Braddock	7	7	6	6	6	4	6	5	6	5	58
George Foreman	6	6	5	4	3	10	7	5	7	5	58
Tommy Burns	7	6	6	5	5	5	7	5	7	4	57
Leon Spinks	4	6	5	6	5	5	6	5	5	3	50
Marvin Hart	5	6	6	5	4	4	6	4	5	2	47
Jess Willard	5	6	6	3	3	6	6	3	5	3	46
Ingemar Johansson	4	4	3	6	3	8	5	5	4	3	45
Primo Carnera	3	6	5	3	2	5	6	3	4	2	39

DEFENSE: While this category is self-explanatory, it should be noted that in cases where a champion's offense was *also* his best defense, points were awarded based on the overall effectiveness, vis-a-vis defense, of his individual style.

DETERMINATION: Courage, guts, heart, bottom, whatever you want to call it, it all boils down to the same thing: the overpowering will to keep fighting in the face of any odds. A few champions of unquestionable bravery (Ali and Johnson are prime examples) lost points here because they failed to "put out" 100% in certain bouts.

DURABILITY: The champions' chins, stamina and overall conditioning throughout their careers were considered when grading this department.

HAND SPEED: One cannot overstress the importance of hand speed, perhaps the single most important quality any fighter can own.

FOOT WORK: Another vital part of any boxer's repertoire. It should be noted that a champion doesn't necessarily have to be a speed merchant—though it certainly helps—to rate highly in this category.

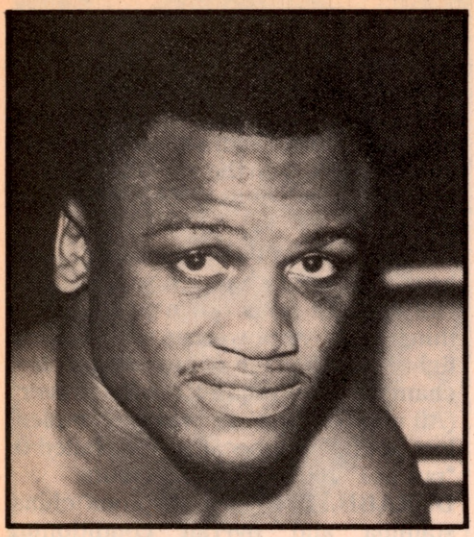
PUNCHING POWER: The most obvious and dynamic quality a fighter can possess. The effect of combination punching was also factored into this equation.

CUT RESISTANCE: Always a factor, especially today when officials are much more likely to stop a fight because of cuts than in the past.

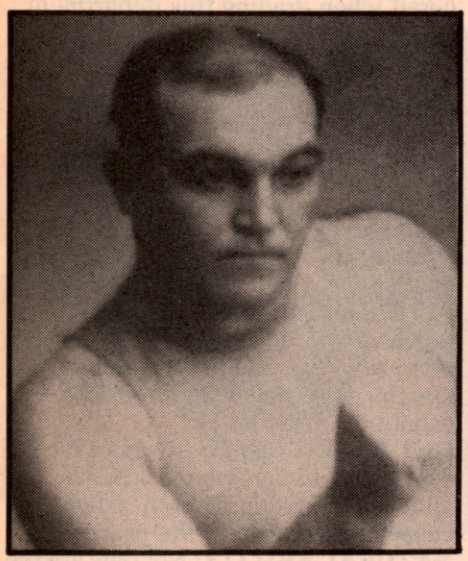
NATURAL ABILITY: Not only are the champions' God-given talents taken into consideration here, but also the fact that some (Max Baer for instance) failed to make the most of their gifts.

QUALITY OF OPPOSITION: It is undeniable that some heavyweight champs fought in an era blessed with better fighters than others, a criterion that has to be taken into consideration when grading them as a group. Also, some champs (Sullivan, Dempsey, etc.) lost points because they refused to fight black fighters.

HISTORICAL IMPACT: The heavyweight champion should be more, far more in fact, than just the best fighter in the world over 175 pounds. Ideally, he should also be a larger-than-life figure, one who captures the public's imagination and leaves an indelible impression on the sport. □

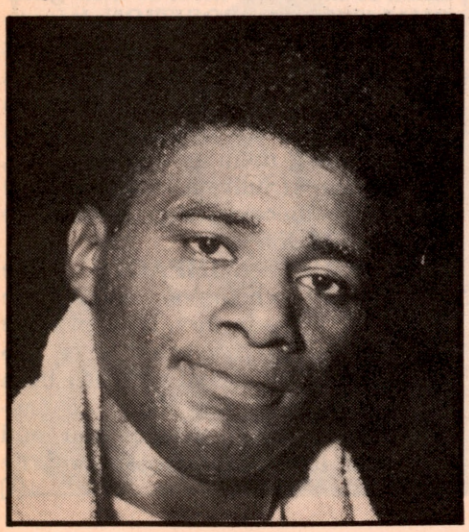


Joe Frazier



Jim Jeffries

Floyd Patterson



11. JOE FRAZIER (1970-73): "Smokin' Joe" had one gear—forward. That characterization gained him a perfect 10 in determination from *The Ring* panel, but it also led to his downfall against certain opponents, particularly George Foreman.

Like Dempsey and Marciano, Frazier paid little heed to defense or footwork, preferring to bob and weave his way in close for a chance to land his sweeping left hook. But unlike Dempsey and Marciano, Frazier was staggered and hurt often and lacked one-punch knockout power. If Frazier hurt you, he usually did it from an accumulation of punches.

Frazier won New York recognition as heavyweight champion in 1968, but didn't gain acceptance as champion by *The Ring* until he beat Jimmy Ellis in 1970 for the crown vacated by a retiring Ali. He made four successful defenses of the title, including a 15-round win over the comebacking Ali, before being blitzed in two rounds by Foreman. His second match with Ali was for the NABF championship, not the world title, but he did get a chance to regain the world crown, losing to Ali in the "Thrilla' in Manila." Frazier finished his career 32-4-1 with 27 KOs.

His record against other heavyweight champions: Ali (W15); Foreman (KOby2); Ali (L12); Ali (KOby14); Foreman (KOby5). Named *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Year" in 1967, 1970 and 1971.

11. JIM JEFFRIES (1899-1905): "The Boilermaker" is tied with Frazier and, in many ways, was similar to "Smokin' Joe."

Jeffries graded highly in determination and durability, being almost impossible to discourage. He punched harder than Frazier, though, and was a threat to knock out any foe he faced. Jeffries' historical impact is also considerable as he was the first heavyweight champion to retire without losing the title. In fact, Jeffries never lost a fight until he made a ridiculous comeback attempt against Jack Johnson after being inactive six years. Johnson tore him to shreds, but hey, nobody ever accused Jeffries of being Sugar Ray Leonard. In fact, his style was quite the opposite, and he receives low grades in footwork and hand speed.

Jeffries won the championship in only his 13th fight, knocking out Bob Fitzsimmons. He defended successfully seven times before quitting. Overall, Jeffries was 18-1-2 with 15 KOs.

Jeffries' record against other heavyweight champions: Fitzsimmons (KO11); Corbett (KO23); Fitzsimmons (KO8); Corbett (KO10); Johnson (KOby15). Named to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.

13. FLOYD PATTERSON (1956-59, 1960-62): Though the youngest to win the heavyweight title and the first to regain it, Patterson rates just a six in historical impact because he did little with the title when he had it. Yes, he defended it. But the quality of his opposition was almost a joke.

Nevertheless, Patterson provided plenty of thrills, not to mention a ton of spills. When Floyd fought, one thing was for certain—someone was going to go. His strongest asset was his hand speed, for which he received a perfect 10, matching Ali and Louis in that category. No one could question his determination, either. He was knocked down often, but usually got up. Still, his weak chin and his sometimes porous defense cost him when the ballots were tallied.

After Marciano retired, Patterson won the vacant title with a knockout of Archie Moore. He defended four times against four barely warm bodies before being destroyed by Ingemar Johansson. Patterson regained the crown from Johansson, defended once, then faced Liston, who knocked him out twice, both KOs coming in the first round. He fought on until 1972, even getting a couple chances to win the title a third time, finally ending his career 55-8-1 with 40 knockouts.

Patterson's record against other heavyweight champions: Johansson (KOby3); Johansson (KO5); Johansson (KO6); Liston (KOby1); Liston (KOby1); Ali (KOby12); Ali (KOby7). Named *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Year" in 1956 and

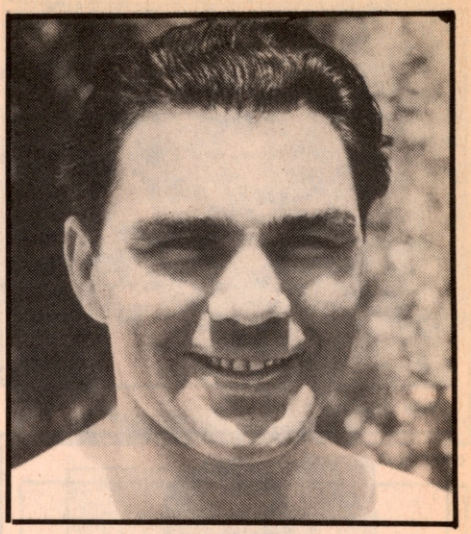
1960. Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1976.

13. MAX SCHMELING (1930-32): "The Black Uhlan" was another fighter who, much like Walcott and Charles, did most things well, but nothing outstanding. His top grades come in historical impact, thanks to his two memorable matches with Louis, and quality of opposition, as Schmeling fought all of the best heavyweights in his day.

A standup boxer with a strong, straight right hand, Schmeling actually won the championship six years before his greatest triumph, his 12-round KO of Louis. Schmeling holds the dubious honor of being the only heavyweight champion to win the title on a foul, the victim of a low blow by Jack Sharkey. He defended once, then lost the crown to Sharkey on a close decision.

The loss to Sharkey came in 1932. Schmeling's knockout of the then-unbeaten Louis occurred in 1936. By the time Schmeling met Louis for the championship, the year was 1938 and Schmeling was 33 years old. Though destroyed in one round, Schmeling fought on until 1948, ending his career 56-10-4 with 38 KOs.

Schmeling's record against other heavyweight champions: Sharkey (WF4); Sharkey (L15); Baer (KOby10); Louis (KO12); Louis (KOby1). Named *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Year" in 1930. Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1970.



Max Schmeling

15. JAMES J. CORBETT (1892-97): "Gentleman Jim" was the first of the gloved heavyweight kings and, for that reason he ranks highly in historical impact. But, in all honesty, he was vastly overrated.

He won the crown by stopping an old, fat John L. Sullivan, who, in his prime, wouldn't stack up well with most of the heavyweight champs. He lost the championship when knocked out by Bob Fitzsimmons who, in reality, was little more than a middleweight. Imagine, if you will, Sugar Ray Leonard knocking out Larry Holmes with a body shot and you get the general idea of how well Corbett took it. As a puncher, Corbett receives his lowest score, having recorded only seven knockouts in his brief career.

Corbett won the title from Sullivan in 21 rounds and defended it successfully just once in five years before being KO'd by Fitzsimmons. His career mark is a rather feeble 11-4-2 with seven knockouts and two no contests.

Corbett's record against other heavyweight champions: Sullivan (KO21); Fitzsimmons (KOby14); Jeffries (KOby23); Jeffries (KOby10). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.

James J. Corbett

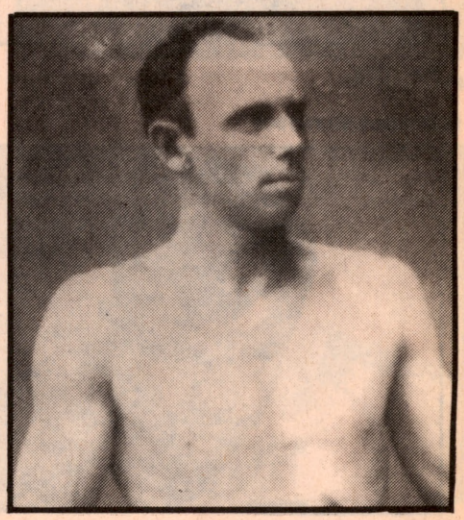
15. BOB FITZSIMMONS (1897-99): Don't get the wrong impression from the above comments on "Ruby Robert." Fitzsimmons was a hell of a fighter. He just wasn't much of a heavyweight, never weighing more than 175 pounds.

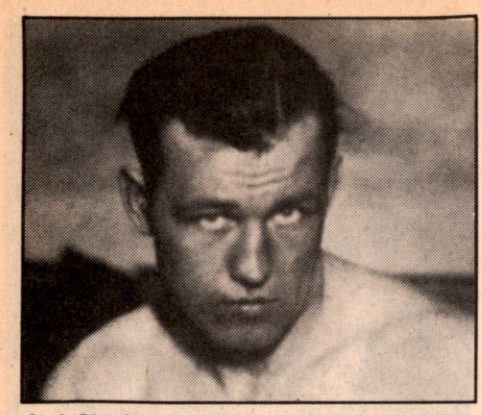
The fact that he fought and fought well against the biggest men of his day gave Fitzsimmons high scores in determination, durability and quality of opposition, plus he fought through cuts and punched with decent power, exceptional power if you consider his weight. But, in the style of the day, he was a rather stationary object with little to offer in hand speed or footwork. He nailed you, or you nailed him.

Fitz won the championship with his KO of Corbett in 1897 and lost it to Jeffries in his first defense. He failed in a bid to win back the crown three years later, but won the light heavyweight title in 1903 at the age of 40. Since he had acquired the middleweight championship in 1891, Fitzsimmons will forever be remembered as boxing's first champion in three different weight classes, and we're talking world champion in three legitimate weight categories, not bogus three-time champions building careers on junior titles and partial championships.

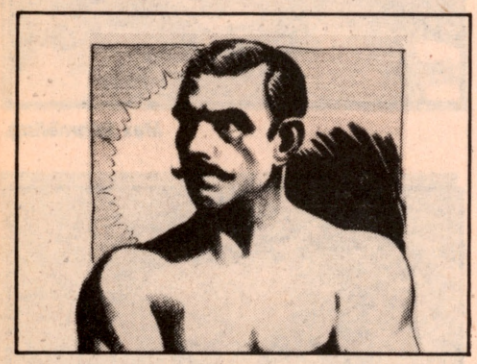
Fitzsimmons retired in 1914 at the age of 51 with a 40-11 record which included 10 no decisions, one no contest and 32 knockouts. His record against other heavyweight champions: Corbett (KO14); Jeffries (KOby11); Jeffries (KOby8); Johnson (KOby2). He was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.

Bob Fitzsimmons





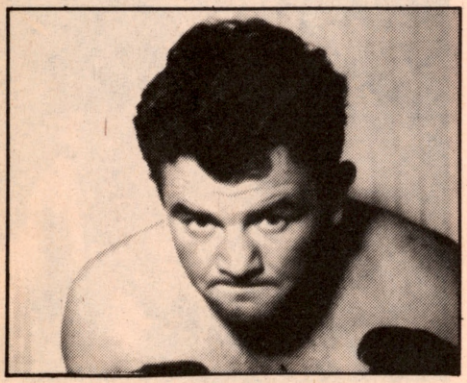
Jack Sharkey



John L. Sullivan

Max Baer

James J. Braddock



17. JACK SHARKEY (1932-33): "The Boston Gob" was a decent fighter, but nothing outstanding as his grades indicate. His highest score comes for the quality of his opposition as Sharkey fought most of the best heavyweights of his day. His lowest grades are for historical impact, which was almost nil, and punching power, which was just average.

A standup fighter with decent skills, Sharkey won the crown with a disputed decision over Schmeling, then lost it to Primo Carnera in his first defense. He fought three more years, finishing 38-13-3 with just 14 knockouts and one no decision.

Sharkey's record against other heavyweight champions: Dempsey (KOby7); Schmeling (LF4); Carnera (W15); Schmeling (W15); Carnera (KOby6); Louis (KOby3). He was named *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Year" in 1932 and was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1980.

18. JOHN L. SULLIVAN (1885-92): "The Boston Strong Boy" was just that—a strong brawler who could lick anyone in the house. Perhaps he should have kept the door locked when Corbett showed up. As a bare-knuckler, Sullivan was unbeatable. And, as the first recognized heavyweight champion, he is one of just six to score a 10 in historical impact. But Corbett, no whiz himself, exposed Sullivan as a lumbering bull who knew little of the art of boxing. Yes, he could punch. Yes, he could take it. No, he couldn't box.

Sullivan won the bareknuckle championship in 1882, then became the first champion under Queensbury rules in 1885. From 1885 until 1892, he fought several exhibitions and defended his bareknuckle title several times, but lost his Queensbury title to Corbett in his first defense. He finished his career 38-1-3 with 33 KOs. His record against other heavyweight champions: Corbett (KOby21). He was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.

19. MAX BAER (1934-35): "The Livermore Larruper" perhaps should have been known as Max Headcase. A perfect physical specimen at 6-2½, 210 pounds, Baer frittered away a potentially magnificent career with the mental makeup of Pee Wee Herman. The power in his right hand earned him his highest grade, an eight for punching power. But his lack of dedication to his craft resulted in a three in determination.

Baer won the championship with an 11-round knockout of Carnera, then lost it to James J. Braddock in one of boxing's biggest upsets. He could fight, and proved it against decent competition. He just didn't seem to want to, though he continued active until 1941.

Baer's record stands 70-13 with 52 knockouts. His record against other heavyweight champions: Schmeling (KO10); Carnera (KO11); Braddock (L15); Louis (KOby14). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1968.

19. JAMES J. BRADDOCK (1935-37): "The Cinderella Man"pulled one of boxing's biggest upsets when he snatched the heavyweight crown from the head of Baer. However, Braddock's success owed more to Baer's lack of dedication than to Braddock's talents. A decent defensive fighter with heart, Braddock was average in most categories, but less than outstanding in most. In fact, he was a powder-puff puncher who met the right guy at the right time.

Braddock won the crown from Baer in 1935, then sat on it until Louis came along and ended Braddock's brief reign. Braddock fought just once after losing to Louis, finishing 46-23-4 with 27 KOs, 11 no decisions and two no contests. Braddock's record against other heavyweight champs: Baer (W15); Louis (KOby6). He was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1964.

19. GEORGE FOREMAN (1973-74): Foreman was so imposing he needed no nickname. Like Liston, Foreman was exposed by Ali, proving to be a plodding banger with little stamina, a suspect chin and virtually no adaptability. Foreman could not carry his strength or punch over a distance. If he didn't get you early, he was in trouble as Ali and later Jimmy Young proved.

Foreman won the championship by clobbering Frazier in two rounds. Frazier is rated much higher, however, because of styles. Frazier, *The Ring* panel feels, would have fared better than Foreman against most other heavyweight champions. "Smokin' Joe" just had the wrong style to tackle the 6-3, 220-pound Foreman. Foreman successfully defended twice before his disaster with Ali. He fought on for three years after losing the title, retired for 10 years and is currently involved in a bizarre comeback attempt.

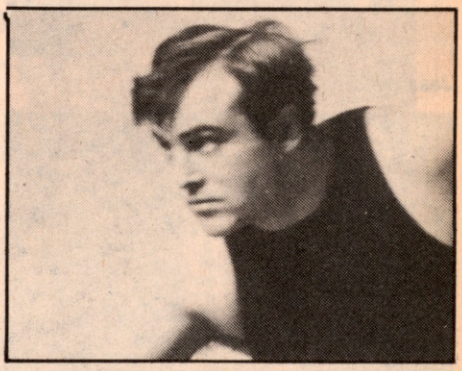
Including his latest escapade with Steve Zouski, Foreman is 46-2 with 43 KOs. His record against other heavyweight champions: Frazier (KO2); Ali (KOby8); Frazier (KO5). He was named *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Year" in 1973 and 1976.

George Foreman

22. TOMMY BURNS (1906-1908): Born Noah Brusso, Burns was a spunky campaigner who made the most of limited ability. He couldn't do anything really well, but wasn't terrible in any category, either. He may have been the worst heavyweight champion of all-time, but he may have been better than a few and capable of beating several others.

Burns won the championship from Marvin Hart in 1906 and defended it 11 times while Johnson did his roadwork by chasing Burns around the world, trying to get a title shot. Burns finally acquiesced, predictably losing to the great Johnson. He kept fighting until 1920, but didn't accomplish a great deal, finishing his career 46-5-8 with 36 knockouts and one no decision.

Burns' record against other heavyweight champions: Hart (W20); Johnson (KOby14). He was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1960.



Tommy Burns

23. LEON SPINKS (1978): The 1976 Olympic gold medalist as a light heavyweight, Spinks, in just his eighth pro fight, grabbed a piece of boxing history by beating an overconfident and somewhat shopworn Ali for the heavyweight title.

"Neon Leon" lost the crown in a rematch with Ali the same year and was soon exposed as a limited fighter with little defense and a weak chin. Spinks fights on, but has become an embarrassment to himself and boxing.

Presently, Spinks is 18-7-2 with 10 KOs. His record against other heavyweight champions: Ali (W15); Ali (L15); Holmes (KOby3).

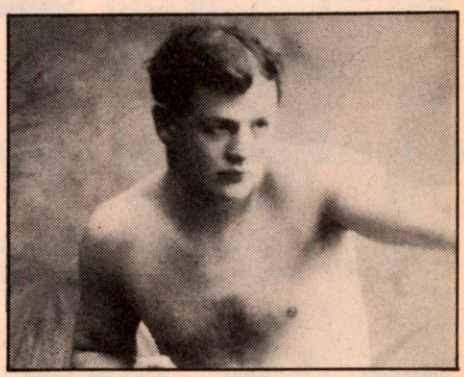
Leon Spinks

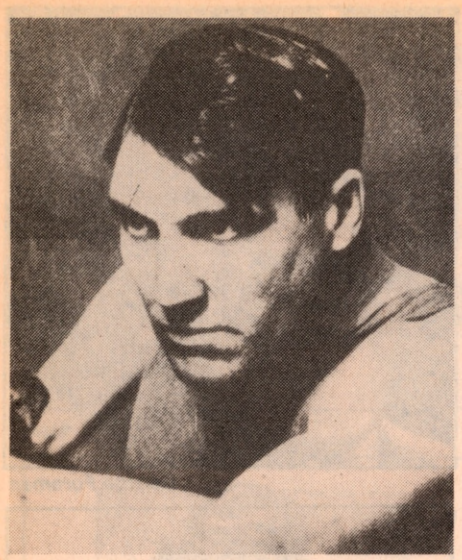
24. MARVIN HART (1905-06): Was Marvin Hart a heavyweight champion? When Jim Jeffries retired undefeated, he named Hart and Jack Root to fight for the vacant championship. Jeffries even refereed the fight, which was won by Hart on a 12-round KO. Assuming Jeffries has as much credibility as the WBA, WBC or IBF, and those three certainly have done nothing to dispute that assumption, then Hart should be recognized as a legitimate champion, for what it's worth.

Typical of his day, Hart was a plodder who won many fights simply through his ability to remain standing longer than his opponent. Would Hart have been able to beat Leon Spinks? Maybe? Who cares? He did beat Johnson, but it must be remembered that Hart was white and Johnson was not.

Hart defended his crown just once, losing it to Burns on a 20-round decision. He continued fighting until 1910, finishing 38-7-4 with 19 KOs and eight no decisions. His record against other heavyweight champions: Johnson (W20); Burns (L20).

Marvin Hart





Jess Willard

Ingemar Johansson

Primo Carnera

25. JESS WILLARD (1915-1919): At 6-6, 250 pounds, "The Pottawatomie Giant" was an impressive specimen—until the fight started. Then, he was revealed as a lumbering oaf with little ability. His 26-round knockout of Johnson to win the title was probably legitimate, despite Johnson's claims he threw the fight. But Johnson was 37 at the time.

Willard held the championship for over four years. And that's just what he did—held the championship. He made just one successful defense before coming apart at the seams at the hands of Dempsey. If nothing else, Willard could absorb punishment as the Dempsey fight clearly illustrated.

Willard's career ended in 1923 with a record of 24-6-1 with 21 KOs and four no decisions. His record against other heavyweight champions: Johnson (KO26); Dempsey (KOby3). He was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1977.

26. INGEMAR JOHANSSON (1959-60): When Ingo captured the crown from Patterson, he was undefeated and considered a top-quality heavyweight. He turned out to be a less-than-dedicated playboy with a good right and a glass jaw.

Johansson lost the title back to Patterson in his first defense, then was stopped again in their rubber match. In each, Johansson appeared as if he had trained by poolside, which, for the most part, he had.

Johansson's record against other heavyweight champions: Patterson (KO3); Patterson (KOby5); Patterson (KOby6). Named *The Ring's* "Fighter of the Year" in 1958 and 1959.

27. PRIMO CARNERA (1933-34): If you can't say anything nice about someone, don't say anything at all. But, there is something nice to say about "The Ambling Alp," who was arguably the worst heavyweight champ of all-time—he tried.

At 6-6, 260 pounds, Carnera was the biggest of heavyweight champs. Talentwise, he was the opposite. But, he tried. He won the crown with a knockout of Jack Sharkey, defended it once against light heavyweight Tommy Loughran, then lost it when Baer bounced him off the canvas so often he had Spaulding written on his forehead by the time the bout was stopped. Carnera kept plugging away until 1946 when three straight losses to one Luigi Musina finally convinced him of what everyone else had discovered long before—he just couldn't fight much. But he tried.

Carnera finished 88-14 with 69 KOs and one no contest. It is well known that many (most?) of his wins were of the suspicious nature. His record against other heavyweight champions: Sharkey (L15); Sharkey (KO6); Baer (KOby11); Louis (KOby6) □

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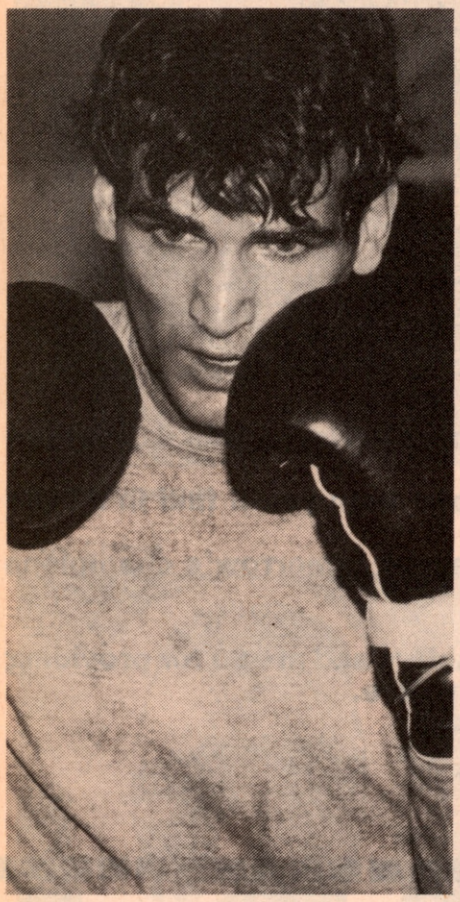
New Faces

by Jack Welsh

DR. TERRY CHRISTLE



PHOTOS BY WAYNE KODEY

Dr. Terry Christle limbers up in the gym prior to sparring with stablemate Robbie Sims.

THOUGH BRAGGADOCIO ISN'T HIS style, Terry Christle wouldn't be exaggerating if he declared he has no peer in American boxing. The 28-year-old native of Dublin, Ireland is a licensed surgeon, drawing a lot of good natured heat on this side of the Atlantic about personally creating a practice with his fists.

As an engaging son of the Emerald Isle, Christle has acquired a few one-liners of his own in a second career as an undefeated middleweight, notably: "When the bell rings, I like to operate ... You can say I punch surgically, or I could be my own cut man."

The latter is strictly a throw away line, considering Christle is unmarked and has never been down as a pro while stringing together a 13-0-1, nine KOs record, the last five wins in the United States since coming under the wing of Goody and Pat Petronelli May, 1986 in Brockton, Mass.

Standing 6-2, Christle even baffles the Petronellis as to why he would put his dedication to medicine on hold after such an extensive education in the United Kingdom and France.

Christle probably explained it best at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas when he carved up Sam Houston of Albuquerque, New Mexico for five rounds to win on cuts two nights before his idol, Marvelous Marvin Hagler, was upset by Sugar Ray Leonard for the middleweight title.

"You must remember I was a fighter before I ever graduated as a doctor. I don't know how long I'll continue fighting, but it's something I have to do," Terry advised.

Terry was encouraged toward sports by his parents, particularly in cycling by his father, Joe, who lectured in law and taught accounting in the Dublin College of Commerce.

"My father was the race director from 1953 to 1968 and along with my brothers, Mel, 29, and Joe, 26, I was more interested in racing bikes (than boxing) at that time," Terry reflected. "However, my mother (the former Mamie Battut) was born in Paris and it was an indirect assist which helped me win the French amateur 160-pound title in 1980.

"I started winning juvenile titles at 110 pounds and continued through the classes, winding up with the Irish senior middleweight championships in 1978-79-80. I lost only two of 80 amateur fights, scoring 50 knockouts."

Prior to medical school, Christle entered Trinity College in 1977 where the academic accent was on chemistry, physiology, pathology, anatomy and biology.

PHOTO BY WAYNE KODEY

The "Fighting Physician" enjoys a hearty breakfast.

"I had turned pro in 1980 even though I didn't graduate from medical school until June, 1983. I had one obligatory year as a hospital consultant, doing case work, assisting surgeons. I

put in my time at St. Patrick and St. James hospitals in Dublin I did come to the States for one fight, a six-rounder December, 1982 at Ventura, California, where I beat Danny Patino.

"When I got back home, I trained under Bobby Neill, who had worked with such champions as Alan Minter and Lloyd Honeyghan. Back home, I took a job at Trinity in 1984, teaching first- and second-year students about anatomy and surgery. I also was learning advanced surgery techniques."

Along the way, Dr. Christle fought six times, but took no bouts in 1985, opting to take an intensive examination for an Educational Commission Foreign Medical Graduate certificate instead.

"It is a most difficult battery of tests, 500 multiple choice questions divided into four sections. It takes two days to complete. You must be in the top quarter of the class and it is a strict requirement to get into a residency hospital program anywhere in the United States. I took the tests in Dublin and was 22nd of 28 who passed," Terry explained. "For foreign doctors in the U.S., each state gives federal license exams. I hope to do the first part of the exams this June in Boston.

"Near the end of '85, I graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons where I did a primary fellowship. I was now free to leave Ireland, so in November, '85 I flew to New York where my brother Joe had been living for two years. I wanted to learn more about the American style of training. The rent was out of sight, so by January I went to Cape Cod where I got a job in a restaurant."

Christle became acquainted with Ben Lawlor, a former Irish light heavyweight champion.

"I met the Petronellis through Lawlor and started commuting to Brockton every night after my restaurant work so I could work with Robbie Sims and learn the American style," Terry said. "For me, this is still an apprenticeship which I sort of backed into, but I want to make the most of it, so I just keep on learning."

Other than that "cup of coffee" stopover in California three years earlier, Christle made his bonafide American debut May 9, 1986 when the Petronelli brothers put the handsome Irishman in with Kevin Brazier who fell in two in Atlantic City.

Dropping in at Lowell, Mass., last August, Terry chilled Tom Cole in three rounds and returned to that city in October to halt Jerry Baker in five heats.

When Hagler opened camp at Palm Springs last winter to prepare for his mega-million dollar showdown with Leonard, Christle was part of the entourage. However, the comparative newcomer's assignment was to work with Sims, who was preparing to meet Tim Williams at the Showboat Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas.

Sims was partially upset with a 10-round draw by Williams, but in his own sphere, Christle surprised the gallery when he TKO'd Milton Bush in six rounds.

Terry's performance earned him a spot on Top Rank's gala four-day weekend of boxing at Caesars in April. The angular import may not have the power to be another Hagler, but he's extremely accurate with his punching—the kind of crisps shots that sliced up the features of Houston for an early exit.

CBS' prestigious "60 Minutes" was so impressed with Christle's contrasting dual careers, Mike Wallace dispatched Morey Safer to Las Vegas to make the pleasant young man a subject on the award-winning television documentary earlier this year.

Goody and Pat Petronelli are also greatly impressed with one of boxing's best educated prospects and the dedication he displays.

"I can't say he drew the desire from Hagler because it's obvious he had that before he came to us," Goody said. "With his keen mind, I don't know why he insists on knocking guys out. But as long as he is determined to compete, we'll help him all we can."

Understandably, Christle has an open mind about his daring venture.

"All sports have a limited time span for an athlete, and boxing is one of the most demanding of all," the doctor conceded. "As for me, I don't know, but 33 or 34 would seem to be a good time to quit." □

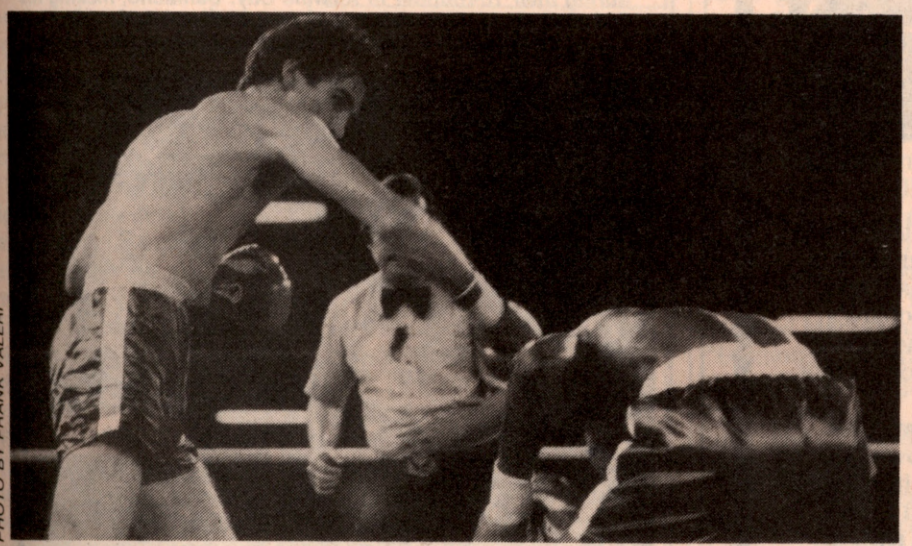


PHOTO BY FRANK VALERI

Christle hammers Milton Bush for a sixth-round TKO victory in Las Vegas.

THE PROFESSIONAL RING RECORD OF DR. TERRY CHRISTLE

Brockton, Massachusetts middleweight
Born: 1959, Dublin, Ireland
Manager: Pat Petronelli
Trainer: Goody Petronelli

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
	1980		
Nov. 1	Jerry Golden	Glasgow	KO 2
	1981		
Feb. 16	Winston Burnett	London	W 6
March 23	Joe Gregory	London	D 6
Nov. 8	Dwight Osborn	Navon, Ireland	KO 5
	1982		
Jan. 27	Mick Mills	Belfast	KO 1
Feb. 23	Winston Burnett	Belfast	W 7
Oct. 16	Martin McEwan	Navon	W 6
Nov. 14	James Ellis	Navon	KO 5
Dec. 16	Danny Patino	Ventura, Cal.	W 6
	1983, 84, 85 (inactive)		
	1986		
May 9	Kevin Brazier	Atlantic City	KO 2
Aug. 29	Tim Cole	Lowell, Mass.	KO 3
Oct. 24	Jimmy Baker	Lowell	KO 5
	1987		
Feb. 12	Milton Bush	Las Vegas	KO 6
Apr. 3	Sam Houston	Las Vegas	KO 5

SUMMARY

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KOs
14	13	0	1	9

Ring Side Reports

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

Sugar Ray Leonard bounces a right off Marvin Hagler's jaw en route to a 12-round decision, the world middleweight title and THE RING'S Fighter of the Month honors.

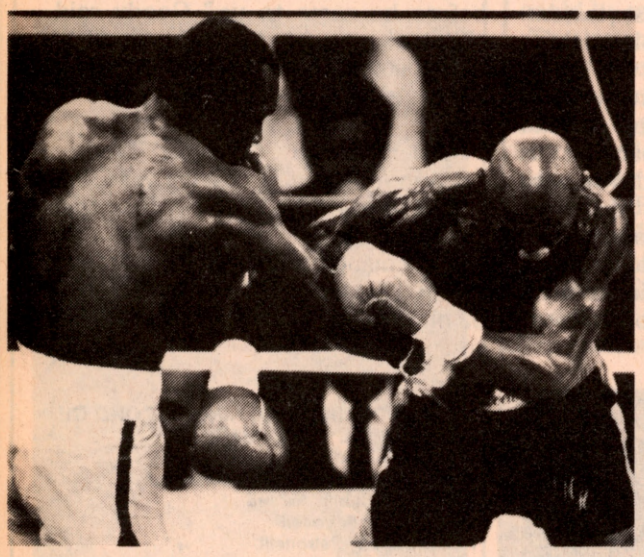


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Sugar Ray Leonard is *The Ring's* Fighter of the Month, and a leading candidate for Fighter of the Year honors by virtue of his stunning upset over Marvelous Marvin Hagler for the world middleweight title. Leonard's 12-round, split decision over Hagler turned the boxing world upside down and proved once and for all that fighters DO COME BACK!

Runner-up this month is **Mike McCallum,** who defended his WBA junior middleweight crown with a 10th-round knockout over former WBC welterweight champ Milton McCrory in an action-packed brawl.

A trio of honorable mentions go to **Harold Knight, Hector Lopez** and **Emancio Castro.** Knight kayoed Kenny Baysmore in the ninth round to annex the USBA junior lightweight belt in a thriller, while Lopez upset featherweight contender Bernard Taylor with a ninth-round knockout and Castro iced former IBF lightweight boss Jimmy Paul in the second round of another shocker. □

CAMACHO-DAVIS

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—WILL Hector "Macho" Camacho ever live up to his unlimited potential, or will he continue to tease us by fighting just well enough to win? That question remains unresolved following the erstwhile "Macho Man's" successful foray into the junior welterweight division, where he won a unanimous 10-round decision over Howard Davis.

Though still technically the WBC lightweight champion, Camacho said he hasn't relinquished the 135-pound belt, just "forgotten" it because he no longer feels strong at the weight. So far, no official word from Jose Sulaiman on whether or not the title will be declared vacant.

The Camacho-Davis bout kicked off a Saturday/Sunday doubleheader hosted by the Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino and televised by ABC-TV. Though the Trump claimed a complete "sell-out" for both afternoon cards, there looked to be several hundred "no shows" absent from the 3,600-seat Atlantic City Convention Hall Ballroom.

Camacho, looking thicker through the upper body

Hector "Macho" Camacho (left) and Howard Davis swap punches during their 10-rounder in Atlantic City. Camacho, making his first start as a junior welter, scored a unanimous decision in a tepid contest between powder-puff punchers.

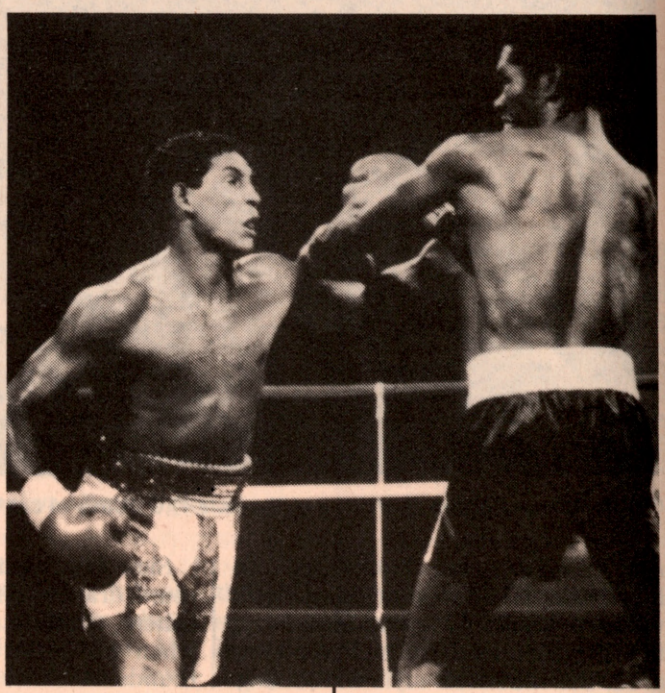


PHOTO BY WILL HART

at 141, still had more than enough speed to dominate the bout without really getting too involved. Davis, also 141, another refugee from the lightweight division, seemed to sleepwalk through the passive encounter, exhibiting none of the fire he'd shown in recent outings against Meldrick Taylor (D10) and Choo Choo Dixon (W10).

After the fight, Davis claimed he'd been weakened by a dose of the flu. Perhaps it would have been better for all concerned if he'd have stayed in bed.

Not that Camacho was any ball of fire. He was slightly more aggressive than when he last defended his WBC title against Cornelius Boza-Edwards, but only just. Hector countered Davis' feeble offensive efforts with crisp vollies of body combinations, scoring plenty of points, but thrilling absolutely no one.

The match was devoid of highlights. Neither boxer was down, rocked, cut or bruised. In other words, it was little more than a spritely sparring session between a couple of powderpuff punchers unwilling, or unable to make a *fight* out of it.

The scoring was as follows: Judges John Stewart and Frank Brunette both saw it 97-93 for Camacho, while judge Lynn Carter had Hector ahead by a 98-93 margin. Paul Venti was the referee.

What does the future hold for this pair? Well, Camacho (32-0 with 16 KOs) said he would give Ray Mancini, who had been making a lot of noise about coming back to fight Hector, two weeks to sign. And if "Boom Boom" drags his feet, "Boxing's Baryshnikov" will challenge IBF junior welterweight boss Terry Marsh.

Davis (29-4-1 with 12 KOs) doesn't have as many options. Though he said he still dreams of winning a world title, at 31, Howard will probably have to settle into a "stepping stone" role if he wishes to box on. He's still slick enough to handle all but the very best "up-and-comers," but it is extremely doubtful that he'll ever live up to the promise he showed winning a gold medal at the '76 Olympic Games.

At the post-fight press conference, Camacho said he couldn't understand why the media continues to criticize him. Maybe it's because practically everybody except Hector realizes he's capable of giving us a helluva lot more than he does.

In the bargain-basement undercard, unbeaten Vinnie Burgese, 140¼, Phila., body punched his way to a TKO over Jo Jo Harris, 141, Orlando, Florida. Harris quit in his corner at the end of the second round of a scheduled eight. Referee, Tony Perez.

Derrick McGuire, 138, Ann Arbor, Michigan, won a unanimous decision over Steve Frank, 141, Brooklyn, New York, eight. Referee Paul Venti.

Angelo Gray, 149, Hallendale, Florida, TKO'd Mario Davis, 152, Buffalo, New York. Davis, who took a pasting in the fifth, failed to answer the bell for the sixth. Referee, Perez.

Matchmaker: Jeff Levine.

Promoter: Trump Plaza & Ring Warriors Inc.

(5-2-87)

NIGEL COLLINS

CZYZ-MacDONALD
IBF Light Heavyweight Title

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ—BOBBY Czyz defended his IBF light heavy crown by walloping "Diamond" Jim MacDonald in a bout in which the challenger saved most of his offense for the post-fight interview. The champion, 174, Wanaque, NJ, halted the challenger, 175, Gains, Mich., at 0:37 of the sixth. The scheduled 15 took place at Convention Hall under the aegis of The Trump. For a onesided bout, it wasn't bad. The champion's crushing attack made it exciting, while the challenger's obvious bent on self-destruction ... with Bobby's help ... gave it an air of suspense.

That MacDonald wasn't ready for what he'd gotten himself into was apparent from the start. Rather than moving with the assured grace of a confident boxer, "Diamond" Jim circled away in confusion as if trying to buy time. His 4-2 record since being demolished by Michael Spinks in an earlier, premature title try had done little to prepare him for a second chance. MacDonald is a dangerous right-hand puncher when he can feint his opponent out of position. Unfortunately, that's his only move, and Czyz wasn't going for it. Bobby was moving with too much purpose to be suckered. The challenger managed one right in the first while getting jolted repeatedly with hooks to the body and rights to the head.

Czyz added a snapping left to MacDonald's torment in the second. Jim managed another right as action heated in the third, but took a shelling. Twice he did an exaggerated mock stagger after getting nailed, but it was false bravado. A left hook just before the bell sent him stumbling to his corner and there was nothing ersatz about it. After that, it became an ordeal by fire for the challenger. In the fourth, Czyz cut off his escape along the ropes with a well-placed shoulder, then banged over a right that buckled MacDonald's knees. "Diamond" Jim pranced like a trotter to keep his legs under him and somehow managed to last out a withering barrage.

The challenger opened the fifth with a flurry as if to show he was still there, but was soon being hammered around the ring wearing a glazed expression. Czyz again exploded at the end of the round, with the fury of his attack carrying beyond the bell. Commissioner Larry Hazzard instructed ref Tony Orlando not to let MacDonald continue much longer on the receiving end, so when Bobby jarred him on the ropes with a left and right to start the sixth, the ref stepped in. At this point, "Diamond" Jim showed more aggression than he had at any time prior. He protested in dismay and appealed to the crowd. Being mostly Czyz fans, they were unsympathetic.

After, the loser expressed the genuine confusion of an unprepared challenger who didn't know what hit him. He blamed television for not allowing enough time to warm up. "Everything happened awfully fast," he alibied, "trying to get loose, get a sweat going. By the sixth round, I was just getting loose." He insisted he was never hurt. "Did anybody see my legs absolutely buckle? Did anybody see me on the canvas?" About the mock staggering, Jim explained, "I was telling him, 'no big deal.'" And he claimed he would have caught Czyz eventually. "He was getting more and more vulnerable, and his shots were getting wider and wider ... my right kept getting a little closer," MacDonald maintained. But he saved his most profound comment for last. "Take the title picture out of anybody's career, and you're stupid if you stay in boxing." His handlers were evidently aware of this, and little else.

Bobby Joe Young, 153½, Steubenville, OH, via Jersey City, won a split, technical decision over David Noel, 154¾, Hallandale, FL, after seven of a scheduled 10. Young's harder punches shook the smooth-boxing Noel a few times and built a lead until a vicious butt gashed Bobby Joe's left eye in the eighth. Noel then tried to strengthen his advantage by blatantly crashing his head into the wound before ref Ted Pick called in the doctor at 1:59. David thought he had gotten away with something before he realized it was going to the scorecards. Rich Strange had him ahead 68-65, but was outvoted by Eugene Grant, 67-66, and Richard F. Murry, 68-65.

Spoiler Carl Wilson, 163¾, Flushing, LI, upset another favorite, Pat Prisco, 164½, Madison, NJ, but got some help from the judges. Prisco was dropped by a left hook, then battered into a standing eight on the ropes in the second. But Pat came back with a crude,

dogged attack that wore Carl out and seemed enough to pull out the verdict in a roughhouse six. Grant voted for Prisco 57-56, but Murry and Strange both had 57-56 Wilson. Ref, Joe O'Neil.

Greg Everett, 176, Newark, hit too hard for Abdul Hakim, 181, Hempstead, LI, dropping him twice in the first and once in the second for a TKO at 2:04, scheduled six. Ref, O'Neil.

Cornell Sims, 161½, Elizabeth, outbattled ever-trying Kenny Page, 163½, Phila., for a unanimous win in a lively four. Ref, Pick.

Promoter: Carlo Dee in association with Frank Gelb.

Matchmaker: Don Elbaum.

Attendance: 3000 (est.).

Judges (title bout): Thomas Kaczmarek, "Rocky" Castellani & Gary Merritt (Ind.).

Timekeeper: Roosevelt Gilbert.

Announcer: Ed Derian.

(05-03-87)

J.R. JOWETT

KNIGHT-BAYSMORE
USBA Junior Lightweight Title

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ—THE new Showboat Hotel Casino wasted no time opening its doors to boxing. But its inaugural may never be equaled. When the first preliminary got underway, the room was as silent as a mortuary. By the time Harold "The Shadow" Knight had finished dismantling Kenny Baysmore in an incredibly savage battle, the racket could probably be heard in Portugal!

In the process, Knight, 128, Plainfield, NJ, lifted the USBA jr. lightweight crown from Baysmore, 129¾, Wash., DC, by knocking the champion out at 2:05 of the seventh of a scheduled 12. It was one fight where the prebout bluster proved prophetic . . . almost.

"I'm going to bang to the body, keep the pressure on and back him up," Knight threatened. And he did. "He appears to be a brawler type . . .," Baysmore commented. "He's in close, likes to exchange a lot. It's like 'you hit me, I hit you' . . . I don't mind those type of guys." He was right, too . . . except for the last part.

After reactivating a stalled career under new manager Lenny Shaw, "The Shadow" was facing his first opponent of any real note. He didn't seem to belong with the experienced champion, who had stopped Knight's stablemate, Marino Ramirez, in his last defense. But the hard-hitting Harold cut through any advantage Baysmore may have had in savvy by going straight at the champion with a vicious attack that left no room for subtlety. Kenny was jolted right from the outset and was so overwhelmed by Harold's combination punching that it took him nearly two minutes of the first round to get off a punch.

In blistering second-round action, the champion suffered a severely cut right eye which would continue to plague him. Fighting back in desperation, Baysmore landed four straight right-hand blasts, while Knight shook them off as if in defiance. Harold did carry his left a bit higher thereafter as the battle became a gunfight between Harold's hook and Kenny's right.

Baysmore tried circling and boxing as it began to look like he had hope. But early in the fourth, Knight charged out and floored him with a left hook. Kenny cooled Harold's attack with some elusive footwork, then jolted him with a right near the bell.

The next two rounds became pure mayhem! Both fighters were wilting under the fiery pace, and, with legs gone, abandoned defensive craft and just tried to get there first! Knight looked to be getting arm weary until he stepped right into Baysmore's face with a five-punch combination that dropped him again. Kenny was battered to the bell, only a late rally possibly saving him. Yet after a similar closing surge in the following round, it was now Knight who was left stunned and wobbly!

The champ seemed to have new life and confidence, coming out for the fateful seventh. But the challenger stowed him away for good with a blazing double left hook, first freezing Kenny in his tracks to the body, then doubling to the head. Baysmore crashed onto his back like a felled timber as ref Steve Smoger didn't bother to complete the count. The challenger led on the cards, locals Charlie Spina and Phil Newman both with 59-54, and Milton Greene, of DC, with 58-55.

"I felt like I was gaining control of the fight," the ex-champ claimed. "I was looking to take him out in about the eighth." Meanwhile, Plainfield mayor Richard Taylor promised the new champ a parade and the key to the city.

An explosive undercard featured a number of returning warriors who seemed glad to be back and responded with spectacular blast-outs. In a savage brawl, "Rip" Rettig, 146, Bayonne, outlasted Carlos William Brandi, 146, Mendoza, Arg., who was dropped and TKO'd at 0:32 of the fourth, scheduled eight. Ref, Vinnie Rainone.

Mike "Benny Sent Me" Dale, 161, E. Orange, walloped Anibal Perez, 165¼, Camden, with a knockdown and standing eight for a TKO at 2:17 of the first, scheduled four. Ref, Smoger.

Robert Alvarado, 158, Camden, banged Ray Brewer, 152, Paterson, with thudding right leads for a two-knockdown TKO at 2:25 of the first, scheduled four. Ref, Rainone.

Joe Carr, 168, Irvington, dropped and TKO'd Darrell Underwood, 162, Phila., with a left hook, at 1:10 of the second, scheduled four. Ref, Rainone.

Mark Kobus, 127¼, Ft. Lauderdale, withstood a late battering to edge Doug Pettiford, 130, Wilmington, by majority decision in a good six. Ref, Smoger.

Promoter: Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.)

Matchmaker: Teddy Brenner, Bruce Trampler.

Attendance: 800 (est.).

Judges: John Poturaj replaced Greene on undercard.

Timekeeper: Justin Bucanico.

Announcer: Mike Buffer.

(04-30-87)

J.R. JOWETT

BASSA-MCAULEY
WBA Flyweight Title

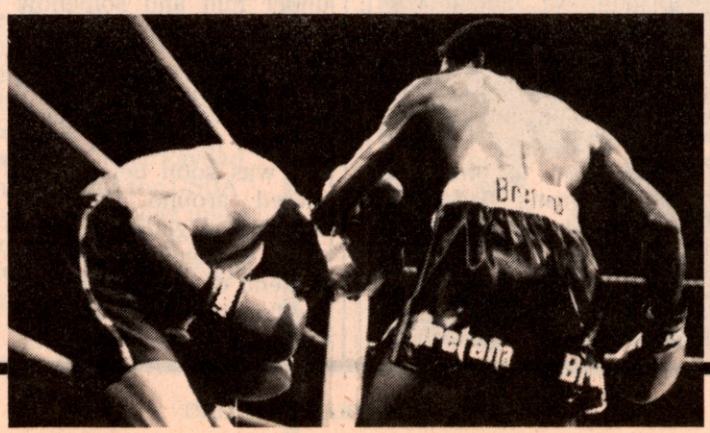
BELFAST, IRELAND—IN A battle that should be preserved in an Irish war museum, Dave McAuley, reigning British champion but a small-print fighter by international standards, survived a first-round knockdown to come within a cat's whisker of emulating longtime idol Sugar Ray Leonard with boxing's second shock victory of the year at the expense of Colombia's Fidel Bassa.

To keep the title he had taken from the once-great Hilario Zapata two months earlier, Bassa marshaled everything for a dramatic knockout in the 13th round. Yet, he could just as easily have lost.

Not only was the dazed champion on the floor twice in the ninth, he was trailing on the cards of all three judges, one by as wide a margin as 115-112, when the trap door finally opened in one of the greatest fights ever seen at the famous King's Hall.

McAuley, a 25-year-old restaurant chef, chuckled a bit when he said he served Bassa an indigestible help-

Fidel Bassa (right) has Dave McAuley on the ropes during their thrilling battle for Bassa's WBA flyweight crown in Belfast, Ireland. Bassa survived several knockdowns to retain the title with a 13th-round knockout.



ing of Irish stew. Happily, the champion wasn't aware of terrorist attempts to sabotage the show with threats of a car bomb outside the stadium.

"We almost didn't have a fight at all," confessed promoter Barney Eastwood.

But the coffee-skinned Colombian champion was left with a sour taste after a mild flare-up at the weigh-in.

"What's this, some crazy Irish joke?" fumed Willie Chams, Bassa's manager, after his fighter weighed in at 109¾, nearly two pounds lighter than he had been at a trial weigh-in just over an hour earlier. Chams' request for the scales to be set officially had been ignored, it seems, but nobody took the trouble to tell him. McAuley weighed 111½.

"Round One goes to McAuley," sniffed one hometown critic, but imagine the panic in the Irish camp when the startled challenger was sent sprawling to the canvas with a cut right eye almost before the clamor of the opening bell had died. McAuley bit the bullet and came storming back against a man strangely oblivious to one of the game's basic laws—defense.

While McAuley's old-English, fencing-master style went out with the dinosaurs, he can punch a bit and he put Bassa down in the third and again in the sixth, though the latter was ruled no-knockdown even though Bassa went to his knees after a left hook to the head. Bassa, warned several times for using his head as a weapon, was cut by the right eye in the seventh and was in terrible trouble in the ninth, first from a short left hook to the chin, then from a sweeping right between the eyes. Suddenly, the champion's legs were like rubber, his eyes the size of saucers as his belligerent foe reloaded for another fierce assault.

But it never came. Under WBA rules, referee Nate Morgan of Chicago would have had to stop the contest with McAuley the winner had Bassa been forced to the floor a third time during the round. Somehow, Bassa managed to shrug off this crisis before hurling everything into a final, desperate thrust for victory four rounds later.

Stubborn and uncompromising, this tough little hombre knew he was behind on points and forced an exhausted challenger against the ropes before cutting loose with a wicked salvo of lefts and rights to the face and head. There was no escape for McAuley, his face a mess, his mouth agape with fatigue, and he was stretched full-length when his corner tossed in the towel.

Bassa's bold Latin instincts had saved the day, but McAuley certainly came out of this spitfire battle a much bigger man. McAuley's face was covered with bumps and bruises, both eyes were cut, but to the 6,000 fans he was a hero, and was applauded all the way back to his dressing room. The Ulsterman's new target may be a crack at the world light-flyweight title, provided the cream of Korea can be lured to Belfast.

"This was the first fight I have ever lost inside the distance, either as an amateur or pro," said McAuley. "I thought I had him down three times in the ninth, but the referee thought otherwise. But I was pleased to have done so well when a lot of the critics gave me no chance at all.

"I have no complaints about Bassa's tactics," added McAuley. "Sure, he was a dirty so-and-so. In Round Two, his thumb damaged my eye and his head injured my face, but you must expect this sort of thing in a world title fight."

McAuley's manager, Barney Eastwood, added, "McAuley proved himself a real man, a terrific fighter who enhanced his reputation and that of Irish boxing."

Bassa, who scored his 14th knockout in remaining unbeaten in 18 fights, will rest awhile before swopping punches with Zapata again. But Mickey Duff offered Bassa approximately $150,000 to defend his crown against European champion Duke McKenzie, and Bassa's manager is said to have accepted in principle.

(4-25-87)

JACK MAGOWAN/ RON OLVER

HONEYGHAN-BLOCKER

WBC Welterweight Title

LONDON—TAKING PART IN his third welterweight title fight in 203 days, Britain's Lloyd Honeyghan retained his WBC championship by outpointing Maurice Blocker, "The Thin Man" from Washington, D.C., in a 12-round battle of unbeatens.

The decision of the three judges was unanimous, Italy's Roland Barrovechai scoring 117-114, Belgium's Bob Logist carding 119-114 and Luxemburg's Arsene Kloop seeing it 119-112.

The scoring indicates an overwhelming victory for Honeyghan, but does not do justice to the tremendous contribution to the fight by Blocker, the best overseas stylist seen in Britain in some time. Honeyghan's superior work-rate took him through as he was always coming forward. Blocker revealed moments of speed and skill, but they were too few.

Honeyghan is the champion and as such dominated the fight. From the opening bell, he moved forward into the attack and kept the pressure going until the final bell. Some of the punches he landed appeared lethal enough to dispose of a lesser foe, but Blocker maintained his record of never having been floored.

Those watching could have been forgiven for thinking Blocker was the British boxer with his upright stance, neat left hand and long-range boxing, and that Honeyghan, bobbing and weaving to get in close and hammer away at the body, was the American. It was inevitable Honeyghan would miss with some of the punches he threw, especially with Blocker moving backward so quickly. But Honeyghan also landed frequently and took the first two rounds with comparative ease.

Occasionally, Blocker was drawn into fighting instead of boxing, and he delivered a few useful flurries. But they had no effect on Honeyghan, who came right back with his own two-handed attacks in the third, fourth and fifth rounds. In the fifth, Honeyghan scored with a left hook, then a right cross to the head that must have hurt. At the end of the fifth, Honeyghan's manager, Mickey Duff, complained to Swiss referee Frans Marti about Blocker's holding tactics.

In Round Six, Blocker did his best to keep the action at long range where he could use his four-inch height advantage and his 6½-inch edge in reach. But, he was warned for a low blow.

Round Seven was an ex-

cellent one for Honeyghan, who stalked his man and scored frequently. He switched to southpaw, as he did at various times throughout the fight, and this seemed to work for him. In Round Eight, it was noticeable that Blocker was still as durable as ever, but tiring. Again he was warned for a low blow, and Honeyghan was as fast as in the opening session.

At the start of the ninth, Blocker was again warned for hitting low. But the round turned out to be a great one with Honeyghan still taking the fight to his opponent, while a desperate Blocker traded punches with him toe-to-toe. Both bore the marks of a fierce fight. Honeyghan was bruised around the eyes and cut on the lip. Blocker had slight swelling around the cheeks. But, they never let up.

The 11th was another great all-action round, with Honeyghan still putting in more work than Blocker, who was tired and boxing in short bursts. But Honeyghan appeared weary for the first time in the last round, and the American did his best to put on a grandstand finish. It was slow-motion stuff, though, and Honeyghan still had enough left to keep his man at bay and stay out of trouble. Blocker, warned again for a low blow in the 10th , received still another warning, and the referee instructed the judges to deduct a point from his score.

"In my opinion, Blocker is the next best welterweight in the world," said Duff. "He has the best chin of any champion I have seen since Muhammad Ali."

Honeyghan agreed with Duff, saying, "I know a good boxer when I see one. You can't knock 'em out all the time. I said it was going to be a tough fight, and it was. I had to really work hard. Now, I am going to take a little rest. Then Mickey and I will sit down and talk about our next opponent."

Disappointed, Blocker said, "When I heard it was a unanimous decision, I thought it was for me. The more I boxed, the more I outpointed him. And, I didn't hit him low as many times as I was warned. As for Honeyghan fighting Sugar Ray Leonard, no way."

The last comment was in reference to Honeyghan's recent press conference in which he said if his next fight wasn't against Leonard, he would retire. Duff explained, "This was a moment of madness and Lloyd is sorry. I had to go to America for a couple of days, and I think that upset him. But all's well now."

Blocker was in Britain for only four days before the fight and many considered that not long enough to get properly acclimated. Honeyghan said he wasted two weeks training in France. Apparently, his sparring partners went home early, and they couldn't find any sparmates who were six-feet tall.

One thing is for sure, Honeyghan has silenced any critics who cast doubts on his being the rightful champion. In fact, Honeyghan's influence has already been cause for innovation. There had been complaints about Honeyghan coming out of his corner too quickly against Johnny Bumphus. In this fight, before each round a miked voice called "10 seconds." The British Boxing Board of Control also stationed an inspector in each corner between rounds to confirm no illegal substances were used and that the rules were being adhered to.

(4-18-87)

RON OLVER

ROLDAN-KINCHEN

LAS VEGAS, NEV.—IF THERE'S still a reasonable facsimile of "The Wild Bull of the Pampas" out there, it has to be Juan Domingo Roldan.

The 31-year-old pride of Buenos Aires climbed back into the world-class middleweight picture with an unorthodox, but effective ninth-round stoppage of surprisingly non-combative James "The Heat" Kinchen of San Diego in a scheduled 10-round elimination bout preceding Sugar Ray Leonard's upset of Marvelous Marvin Hagler.

Roldan, 160, was making his first appearance in the United States since March 30, 1984, at the Riviera Hotel-Casino where he challenged for Hagler's title. The swarthy Latin became the only fighter to put Hagler on the deck when he caught him off balance in the opening minutes. But the joy was brief as the methodical champion hammered Roldan into a 10th-round TKO.

Returning to South America, Roldan retired briefly in 1985 but returned to the ring under his old promoter/manager Tito Lectoure, moving up to light heavyweight. Roldan returned to Las Vegas with 11 straight victories and, in handing the durable Kinchen his first defeat inside the distance, bolstered his credentials to 61-3-2 with 43 KOs, while the California contender's log dipped to 37-3-2 with 29 KOs.

Kinchen, who won his first 34 starts, was in a must-win situation, having been upset by Iran Barkley, a substitute for the ailing Robbie Sims, Oct. 17. But despite having the indefatigable Eddie Futch in his corner for the first time, Kinchen, 161, had nothing but trouble trying to evade Roldan's chopping right hand. Kinchen did his best work early, smothering Roldan's offense with clutching. But Roldan still was able to score repeatedly with lunging hooks, most of which originated from south of the border.

Strangely, Kinchen was reluctant to counter even when Roldan was flat-footed and right in front of him. Roldan hurt his 27-year-old opponent in the second round and used a punishing right that began to close Kinchen's left eye in the sixth. Obviously sensing he needed a knockout, Kinchen picked up the tempo in the seventh, stepping inside Roldan's arcing flurries and at one juncture arousing the crowd with six straight jabs. However, Roldan was an unrelenting bull, spinning Kinchen around with a vicious right uppercut, then laying in three chopping rights before the bell.

Kinchen started the eighth with a combination, but the same old pattern returned with Roldan shaking his man with eight overhand rights before the bell.

Kinchen unsteadily returned to his corner, and Roldan sensed the end was at hand. He opened the ninth by driving Kinchen into the ropes with three lefts and a right. Kinchen tried to clinch, but Roldan was back with another right. The lunging Roldan then smashed Kinchen back into the ropes near his corner with a left-right-left to the head. Kinchen couldn't get his hands up as referee Carlos Padilla moved in.

Futch made it academic, waving to Padilla to halt the action, the end coming at 1:06. The scorecards all fa-

vored Roldan, Jerry Roth agreeing with *The Ring* card, 79-73, while Chuck Giampa had it 79-74 and Dalby Shirley saw it 78-74.

AQUINO-MOORE

Lupe Aquino looked like he was going to stop former WBA junior middleweight king Davey Moore in the first round, but briefly let the Bronx belter back into the fight before scoring a fifth-round TKO in a scheduled 10-round bout.

Aquino, a 23-year-old out of Santa Paula, Calif., was originally scheduled for a title shot against World Boxing Council junior middleweight champion Duane Thomas, but Moore wound up making his first Las Vegas appearance when Thomas reportedly was injured in training a week before the fight.

Aquino, 155, almost took out the 27-year-old Moore, 155, in the first round, dominating so thoroughly that two judges made it a 10-8 round. Moore, who lost his WBA crown to Roberto Duran June 16, 1984, on an eight-round TKO in New York, won the second round with jabs, but Aquino started the third round with a 10-punch salvo that had Moore's left eye swelling before the bell.

Moore, whose record dipped to 18-4 with 13 KOs, came back with enough flurries to win the fourth round, but paid the price as that puffing left eye was swollen shut. Aquino took advantage of the situation, hammering Moore with a 10-punch combination to the head that moved the ex-champ into a neutral corner.

Suddenly, referee Davey Pearl walked Moore to Dr. Flip Homansky, and the ringside physician instructed Pearl to end the bout at 2:18.

"I stopped this fight because Moore's eye was closed tight and ready to burst open," Homansky explained. "One more shot would have done it."

The victory improved the record of Aquino to 30-2-1 with 22 KOs.

Mickey Ward of Wall, Massachusetts, recorded a TKO win when San Jose's Kelly Koble was unable to answer the bell for the fifth round of a scheduled six. Ward, who weighed 139, is 13-0-1, while the 142-pound Koble fell to 15-5-1.

San Diego's Rigo Lopez outpunched Washington, D.C.'s Robert Sawyer to gain a six-round, majority decision. Lopez raised his mark to 17-3, while Sawyer fell to 20-13. Each weighed 147.

Brian Powers of Brockton, Massachusetts, won a unanimous, four-round decision over Celio Oliver of Colton, California. Powers, 145½, is 2-0, Oliver, 147, is 2-1.
(4-6-87)

JACK WELSH

CURRY-SANTOS
USBA Jr. Middleweight Title

LAS VEGAS, NEV.—DONALD Curry isn't getting "a head" the way he would like to.

The 25-year-old super talent from Ft. Worth, Texas, frustratingly established some kind of trivia record when he retained his USBA junior middleweight crown in the same manner he acquired it—by disqualification.

Again, the misdeed occurred in the fifth round, referee Carlos Padilla finally terminating the erratic efforts of Puerto Rico's Carlos Santos, who repeatedly butted Curry despite previous warnings and a point penalty.

Curry, the former undisputed world welterweight champion now weighing 153, won the vacant USBA title in the same fashion at Caesars Feb. 7 when Detroit's Tony Montgomery was disqualified for similar infractions. The scheduled 12-rounder was televised nationally by CBS, the same network on hand for the Curry-Montgomery fiasco.

It proved costly for both Curry and Santos, the former IBF junior middleweight king. Duane Ford, chairman of the Nevada State Athletic Commission, ordered Santos' $25,000 purse witheld by Top Rank promoter Bob Arum pending an investigative hearing within 30 days. Curry suffered a hairline fracture of the right cheekbone courtesy of Santos' headwork.

"What can I do?" asked Curry. "I was dissatisfied with the outcome of the fight. I was happy with the win, but the butting was a downer. It was partly my fault because I was going inside and that's when I made my head available to be butted. It was obvious throughout the fight the guy was head-butting. Still, I thought I was doing pretty good. I was pretty much controlling the fight. In another round or so, he was going out of there."

Santos' most damaging butt came early in the fifth, inflicting a cut over Curry's right eye which needed eight stitches to close. Santos, who has never been stopped in compiling a 30-3, 21 KO record, spoke through interpreter Lenny DeJesus, contending, "I thought I fought a clean fight, but my actions were not intentional, and I want to apologize to Curry."

Upon hearing his purse was held up, Santos wailed, "I don't know why they do that to me. I did my best, and I was a clean fighter."

Curry, lifting his record to 26-1 with 20 KOs, was sharp from the outset, stinging the southpaw Santos with hooks and overhand rights. Still, Carlos was up on his toes trying to give Curry bad angles to punch. Curry was butted lightly the first time in the second round and Padilla gave Santos his first warning. The latter was more effective when he chose to fight the Texan inside rather than at long range where Curry scored with stinging rights to the head.

Curry appeared to shake Santos with a seven-punch combination early in the fourth. However, Santos fouled the USBA titleholder with his head, prompting the referee to deduct one point. Santos came out aggressively in the fifth, but again caught Curry illegally, this time on the right cheekbone. Curry was accurate with two lefts and two rights to the head as Santos tried to initiate a flurry on the run. Suddenly, there again was a clash of heads, and Padilla immediately abbreviated the bout.

Undefeated Michael Nunn of North Hollywood, California, continued his rise as a front-line middleweight contender when he TKO'd Ft. Worth's Charles Campbell at 1:49 of the ninth of a scheduled 10.

Nunn, who weighed 161 in improving to 22-0 with 14 KOs, completely dominated Campbell, 160½, triggering the ending when he dropped his man with a right to the head. Campbell, who had lost to Nunn Sept. 25, 1985, skidded to 17-4-1 with 10 KOs.

Robert Guy of Ft. Worth improved his credentials to 10-0-1 with a unanimous, eight-round decision over Phoenix's Cassius Clay Horner, who had 16 KOs in an 18-3 record. Each weighed 141¾.

Billy Wright, a 229-pound hard-hitting protege of former world middleweight champ Gene Fullmer, outslugged Dino Homsey, 205, for a KO at 1:40 of the second round of a scheduled six. Wright, of West Jordan, Utah, is 5-0 with four KOs, while Homsey, of Phoenix, is 1-1, the win coming by knockout.

Marcellus Allen of Las Vegas outboxed Ft. Worth's Paul Madison for a majority, six-round decision. Allen, 175, won his fourth straight, with Madison, 176, falling to 8-6.

Ernie Nava of Los Angeles outsped Thailand's Boonikon Poobuapet for a unanimous, six-round decision. Nava, 146, moved to 6-0-1 with five KOs, while Poobuapet, 148, is 1-1, one KO since moving to Las Vegas.
(4-4-87)

JACK WELSH

MUGURUMA-MORAN
WBA Bantamweight Title

MORIGUCHI, JAPAN—TAKUYA Muguruma captured the vacant WBA bantamweight title with a fifth-round knockout of Panama's Azael Moran.

Muguruma, the WBA's sixth-ranked contender, was expecting to face Venezuelan champion Ber-

nardo Pinango, but Pinango announced his retirement just two weeks before the fight and the WBA decided to sanction an eliminator between Muguruma and the second-ranked Moran, who is managed by Pinango's manager, Luis Spada. Having won, Muguruma is obliged to defend against the WBA's top contender, Korean Chan-Young Park, in June.

A partisan crowd of 4,600 was delighted to see the new champion, a brutal banger, make a good start, winning the first round with a couple of right crosses to the Panamanian's face. The cool Moran, who matched Muguruma's 118 pounds, displayed a sharp uppercut while retreating and circling and took the second and third rounds.

The 26-year-old Muguruma came out so furiously in the fourth that Moran was all out just to defend himself. The Japanese puncher landed solid blows to Moran and, just as the bell sounded ending the round, Muguruma landed a right that almost put Moran on the canvas.

As the fifth began, Muguruma swarmed over his fading opponent, punching from all angles. His combinations dropped Moran, who got up but proved little more than a human dummy as Muguruma connected with rights and lefts. A left hook put the 26-year-old Moran on the deck again, and referee Larry Rozadilla of California tolled the fatal 10 over the battered loser.

Muguruma, though not sophisticated, is a hard puncher who boosted his log to 25-1-1 with 19 knockouts. Moran, a pitiful substitute, fell to 16-2 with seven KOs.

Muguruma graduated from Kinki University with a major in architecture. After a brief, 2-1 amateur career, Muguruma became a sparring partner for Jiro Watanabe, the former world bantamweight kingpin. While attending college, he scored 18 wins, 12 by knockout, with one draw. He acquired the Japanese junior featherweight title by stopping Hiroyuki Iwamoto in the fourth round in November, 1983, and defended it seven times before relinquishing it to move down to the bantamweight class.

His sole defeat came at the hands of Korean Yun-Kap Choi, who won a 12-round decision over Muguruma in March, 1985, which gave Choi the OPBF championship. A rematch saw Muguruma demolish Choi in two lopsided rounds.

"I am very happy to respond to the big expectations of the Japanese fans," said Muguruma. "I will do my best efforts to keep this title as long as I can."

Meanwhile, some say Pinango will resume his career as a junior featherweight. The ex-champion may have lost his will to remain a bantam after his tough February defense against Frankie Duarte in Los Angeles.

In an eight-rounder, Akio Kawamata, the JBC's ninth-ranked flyweight, finished Kinya Nakamura at 1:50 of the final round. Kawamata weighed 112 to Nakamura's 110¾.

Hogan Noguchi, 113½, also was a KO winner in the eighth and final round, stopping Tatsunari Hisahiro in 1:54.

Promoter: Osaka Teiken Promotions.
Television: Kansai TV.
WBA Witness: Nick Kerasiotis.
WBA Judges: Lou Moret, Dave McCornkey and Julio Roldan.
(3-29-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

MITCHELL-RIVERA
WBA Jr. Lightweight Title

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO—Brian Mitchell overcame an early deficit to retain his WBA junior lightweight championship with a 15-round draw with Joe Rivera.

After six rounds, it appeared Rivera was going to pitch a shutout. Mitchell failed to take the offensive and had been the victim of a fourth-round knockdown when clipped by a hard right to the head that caught him slightly off balance and dropped him to the seat of his pants.

A partisan crowd at the Roberto Clemente Coliseum went wild at the possibility of a knockout victory for the hometown favorite, but Rivera played it very cautious and didn't press his prey, who appeared to be a bit disconcerted and gave the impression he was beginning to lose heart for the encounter. Up to this point, Rivera appeared to be too sharp, too heavy-fisted for his heavily favored and greater experienced opponent from South Africa.

But the moment the bell rang to initiate the seventh round, the fight took an unbelievable turnaround. The timid Mitchell turned tiger and began to connect with anything and everything he threw at Rivera. Mitchell plodded forward, switching his attack from the body to the head quite effectively.

Paying no mind to the various cuts he had suffered, Mitchell sustained his attack, with Rivera trying to counter but failing to meet Mitchell blow for blow.

"I was unsure of myself," said Rivera. "The idea of having to travel 15 rounds for the first time in my career kept preying in my mind."

But by the time the 12th terminated, Mitchell had not only evened the score but appeared to have the possibility of a knockout win against his opponent, who was rapidly becoming exhausted. Mitchell came out strong in the 13th with that thought in mind, but Rivera wisely kept his distance and began displaying a good left jab and a fast pair of feet for the first time in the bout. No more toe-to-toe exchanges.

"I wanted him to box his way to the title in the last three rounds," said Rivera's manager Manny Siacca.

Mitchell would have none of this, continuing to press the attack. The champion won the 13th and 14th, the slowest rounds of the fight because of Rivera's inclination not to mix it.

The 15th was the round Rivera had to take if he was to sway the verdict in his favor. But he couldn't as Mitchell continued his incessant forward attack while Rivera boxed his way out of trouble.

There was great expectation when the decision was announced and the initial tally of 144-141, Rivera, turned in by Miami's Ed Levine was obviously favorable to the hometown crowd. But the two other American officials, Mark Schekner and Gordon Volkman, saved the title for Mitchell, scoring 142-142. *The Ring* had Mitchell ahead by two rounds, scoring 143-142 with Rivera gaining a 10-8 edge in the fourth.

Levine stated after the fight he had favored Rivera by just one point, saying, "This is the fault of the points system because Mitchell's round wins were by wider margins. But under the system, I could not award him anything more than a 10-9 advantage."

This is true indication that the scoring system should be revised nationally as in the state of New Jersey to allow margins from 10-9 to 10-8 to 10-7.

The semifinal 10 saw former WBA junior featherweight champ Victor "Luby" Callejas return to the ring wars with an easy, 10-round win over Cleo Garcia. The crowd was not too happy, feeling Callejas was a bit too listless and should have scored a KO, but Callejas claimed he was hampered by a bad shoulder.

A third 10 saw lightweight Angel "Pelayito" Hernandez continue his winning record with a decision over tough and previously undefeated Vitorio Belcher. Belcher gave a good account of himself, but Hernandez proved the heavier hitter.

The surprise of the evening came when Angel "Cuso" Rosario upset highly ranked Baby Caban. Referee Falu-Quinones called a halt in the fifth to save Caban, who was 16-0 coming in, from further punishment. Caban appeared to be a bit out of condition but due credit must be given to Rosario, who appears to be a fine prospect.

Promoter: Yampants (Yamil Chade and Pants Santiago).
(3-27-87)

MARIO RIVERA

LEE-DIAZ
IBF Jr. Featherweight Title

SEOUL, KOREA—IBF JUNIOR featherweight champion Seung-Hoon Lee caught Mexican challenger Jorge Diaz and flattened him at 3:02 of the 10th session of a scheduled 15-round title bout at 88 (Palpal) Gymnasium.

The 27-year-old Lee displayed his speed and skill in his first defense since gaining the vacant crown by stopping Thailand's Prayunsak Muagsurin in nine rounds in January.

Diaz, a Los Angeles-based Mexican, came in as the IBF's second-ranked contender with a reported record of 24-5-2 with 16 KOs. The challenger, who weighed 121½, had been busy in 1986, compiling a 7-1-1 record with four KOs. Though stopped in three rounds by ex-WBC champ Jaime Garza, Diaz had demolished Gabriel Gutierrez, Alex Madrid, Tony Montoya and Darrell Thigpen, who scored a stunning knockout of Garza January 26.

In the first round, the fighters probed each other with stinging lefts and occasional rights and each began bleeding from slight cuts, Lee at the right eyelid, Diaz over the left eyebrow. The two remained cautious through the first six rounds as if content to exchange left jabs.

In Round Seven, Diaz came forward with a long left hook and Lee, 121¾, retaliated with a combination of straight rights and uppercuts. The Korean champion pinned the challenger to the ropes with a barrage of punches, and the blood streamed from Diaz' treated gash. But Diaz attacked aggressively in the eighth, scoring with straight rights that had Lee retreating.

Lee caught Diaz with some good counters in the ninth and started stalking the challenger from pillar to post. Diaz was on his bicycle, but in the fatal 10th Lee swarmed all over the fading challenger, backing him against the ropes and scoring with left and right hooks.

Diaz fell to all fours, barely beating the count to resume fighting. But Lee was incessant, throwing flurries to the face and midsection of his groggy opponent, and Diaz collapsed, prone on the deck. Referee Ted Pick of the United States didn't bother to count over the fallen pancake, awarding Lee his 22nd knockout in a 39-6 record. Diaz, who used his height and reach to fight much better than expected in the early going, fell to 24-6-2 with 16 KOs.

At the time of the stoppage, each judge had Lee in front, Francisco Garcia of the United States scoring 87-84, Eduardo Velasco of the Philippines, 88-83, and Korea's Sui-Ki Kim, 89-84.

"My mental power enabled me to retain the title," said the jubilant champion. "Diaz' punches were sharper and stronger than I expected by watching videotapes. I am happy."

Lee, who earned $28,000 to the challenger's $9,000, had failed in three tries to win a title, being closely beaten by Rafael Orono, Lupe Pintor and Victor Callejas prior to acquiring the IBF throne. His manager, Ho-Yun Chun, tried to make a match with WBC kingpin Samart Payakarun, but Payakarun preferred to defend against Jeff Fenech in Australia.

The semifinal saw Hong-Kyu Lim, 140, seize the Korean junior welterweight title via a fifth-round technical decision over defending champion Chong-Hak Lee, who also weighed 140.

Lim bettered his credentials to 25-3-1 with 16 KOs. Lee slipped to 19-6-5 with four KOs.

Promoter: Kukdong Promotions.
Television: KBS in Korea.
IBF Witness: Bill Brennan.
(4-5-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

CHANG-PINTO
WBC Jr. Flyweight Title

INCHON, KOREA—JUNG-KOO Chang, the WBC light flyweight champion, proved too strong and powerful for Mexican challenger Efren Pinto, stopping him at 0:57 of the seventh round of a scheduled 12.

Some 25,000 spectators were in attendance at Sunin University Gymnasium to see the "Korean Hawk" make the 12th defense of the crown he won with a three-round knockout of Hilario Zapata, March 26, 1983. During his four-year reign, the 24-year-old Chang has defeated all challengers easily.

Pinto, the WBC's ninth-ranked contender, was shorter by 1½ inches, but matched Chang's weight of 108 pounds. The Mexican tossed good jabs and showed his speed, but Chang kept up the pressure, picking off Pinto's stinging lefts. Pinto took the first round, but was bleeding from a slight gash at the left eyebrow.

Having studied the hit-and-run tactics of his challenger, Chang dominated the second round, though Pinto attempted to out-leg and out-jab the aggressive champ. The pattern continued in the third and in the closing seconds of the fourth, Chang exploded a wicked right to the temple followed by a good left hook, dropping Pinto. Pinto was saved by the bell, but bleeding again.

In the fifth, Pinto was sent to the canvas twice more as Chang continued to land his right cross to the challenger's temple. Gamely enough, Pinto tried to fight on. However, the Korean didn't hesitate finishing the groggy hombre in the next round. Another right floored the Mexican and referee James Jen-Kin counted him out, though he regained his wobbly legs.

Chang boosted his fine credentials to 33-1 with 14 knockouts. Pinto, the crestfallen challenger, fell to 23-12 with 11 stoppages. At the time of the stoppage, all three judges had Chang well in front, Vince Delgado of the United States scoring 49-43, Larry Nadayag of the Philippines, 48-42, and Australia's Cliff Heaver, 48-44. Chang will try to equal Yoko Gushiken's record of 13 light flyweight title defenses when he faces Gushiken's former stablemate, Tomohiro Kiyuna, in Japan.

Promoter: Ho-Yun Kukdong Promotions.
Television: KBS TV.
(4-19-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

SUGAR RAY . . . STILL IN STYLE

by Nigel Collins

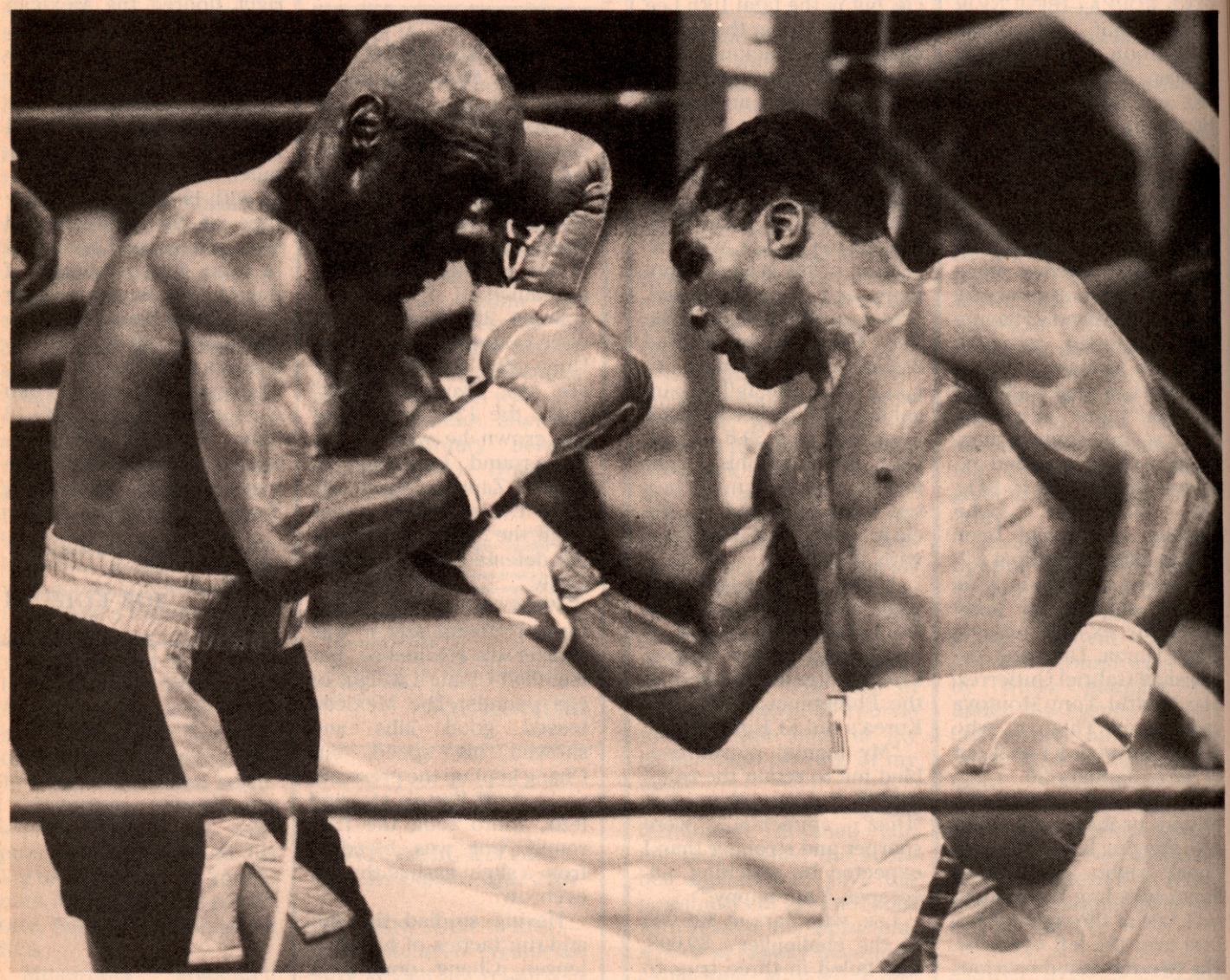


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Sugar Ray Leonard (right) goes toe-to-toe with Marvelous Marvin Hagler during their battle for the world middleweight title in Las Vegas. Leonard's victory climaxed one of the greatest comebacks in boxing history.

IT WAS THE RICHEST PRIZE FIGHT OF all time, the biggest one-day sporting event in recorded history. It was April 6, 1987, the day Sugar Ray Leonard returned to center stage to reclaim his position as the brightest star in boxing's galaxy. The measure of Leonard's magic is not that he dreamed the impossible dream of beating Marvelous Marvin Hagler, but that he dared to make his dream come true.

Leonard did it with a subtle blend of style and substance, a rare mix of artistry and illusion. But above all, like a poolshark calling his shot, he did it exactly the way he said he would.

But then, any boxer with the élan to meet the press wearing a yachting cap after the biggest victory of his career is probably capable of anything.

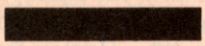
Fashions come and fashions go, but some things never go out of style. Good timing and class are two of them. Sugar Ray—who always had an abundance of both—is another. Eleven years after he emerged as the darling of the '76 Olympics, the Seven-Up Kid is still very much in vogue. He's so hot, in fact, the immediate future of boxing currently hangs in the balance, waiting for Leonard to decide whether or not he'll fight again.

Leonard's tremendous upset victory over Hagler is a tale which weaves together all the elements of great theater into a fascinating tapestry unparalleled in the rich annals of boxing. It is also a story of how boxing has gradually changed, evolved philosophically and stylistically to a point where brains are finally appreciated almost as much as brawn.

It all began less than a year ago with a supposedly innocent dinner between the two combatants at Leonard's Bethesda, Maryland restaurant. But with Sugar Ray involved, one has to wonder exactly how innocent it really was. The way things turned out, he was probably setting a trap for Hagler all along. Like all great hunters, Leonard used himself for bait, luring Hagler into his ambush like a fistic Mata Hari seducing an overconfident general to his doom.

In many ways, Leonard was as brilliant before the bout as he was during it. The 158-pound body he created was a masterpiece in itself. While the fight was not choreographed as some disgruntled Hagler fans would have you believe, Leonard certainly followed a carefully laid strategy to the letter. From the day he casually "mentioned" during a TV interview he would be willing to return for a "one and only" match against Hagler, to the moment his hand was raised in victory, Sugar Ray was in complete control.

Despite the fact much of the sporting media spoke out against the bout because of Leonard's long layoff and history of eye injuries (two points which Leonard rendered completely mute with his sparkling performance), the success of the promotion was unequaled in boxing history. The paying public, which usually knows best, embraced the match from its inception and supported it to the tune of well over $60 million . . . and still counting.



Leonard said from the start that the way to beat Hagler was with movement and handspeed, winning one round at a time. Hagler knew the plan. Hell, everyone with even a remote interest in boxing knew the plan. But that didn't stop it from working.

By the time this reporter hit town, Las Vegas, and much of the free world, was totally engulfed by fight fever. The "buzz" could be felt the moment you stepped off the plane. Everybody seemed to have one thing in common: a burning interest in the Hagler-Leonard fight. The smell of money was everywhere. Vendors hawked Super-Fight souvenirs by the thousands, high-priced hookers decorated casino lobbies by the hundreds, and high-rollers cast their bets by the millions.

Ringside at fight time, the vibes were electric. For a few enchanted hours, it was like being in the center of the universe. It was as if the normal stuff of life and death were temporarily unimportant. Nothing really mattered except for the impending fight.

With the sun low in the inky desert sky, the gladiators finally made their way to the ring pitched in back of Caesars' tennis courts. It was, of course, a classic confrontation of contrasting styles. Leonard is a thoroughbred, sleek and swift, groomed by television, a gifted charmer leading a charmed life. Hagler, on the other hand, is a warhorse, hard and powerful, forged in the clubfight trenches, a proud athlete following the code of the warrior. Yet despite their obvious differences, they shared in common the bond of being the best two fighters of the post-Ali era.

Leonard, as challenger, was first to duck between the ropes, dressed to kill in a short, white satin jacket that looked more suited for a night at the disco than the biggest fight of his career. Hagler, shrouded in a hooded blue robe, made his entrance soon after, his scowl a fitting counterbalance to Leonard's dazzling smile. The Pointer Sisters sizzled their way through the National Anthem while a pyrotechnic version of the American flag fizzled atop Caesars' roof.

Following obligatory instructions from referee Richard Steele, the fighters returned to their corners to await the opening bell. Hagler, anxious to begin, jogged in place, pounded his gloves together and yelled "Let's go, let's go" to no one in particular. Leonard, by comparison, seemed relatively relaxed—an attitude that stood him in good stead thoughout the fight.

At the sound of the first bell, the bleachers exploded with the light of a thousand flashbulbs as many among the capacity gathering of 15,336 took photographic keepsakes of the moment. Almost immediately, the pattern of the fight was established: Leonard ran and Hagler chased. But Leonard's retreat was no ungainly scramble. It was all part of the scheme Sugar Ray had plotted since he first got the notion he could outfox and outbox the man considered by many the best in the business.

Leonard said from the start that the way to beat Hagler was with movement and handspeed, winning one round at a time. Hagler knew the plan. Hell, everyone with even a remote interest in boxing knew the plan. But that didn't stop it from working. Leonard ran, but he didn't even try to hide. Midway into the round, Leonard stopped and fired a right-left into Hagler's face. The lead right didn't have too much on it, but the left clipped Hagler on the side of the nose.

The stinging blow angered Hagler, hurt his pride (not to mention his nose) and let everybody know Leonard wasn't just there to do the boogaloo. He was there to win the fight. The

SUPERFIGHT SUPERQUOTES

Sugar Ray Leonard, commenting on his stunning upset over Hagler:
"This was the greatest accomplishment of my life. It wasn't the belt I wanted. It was just the fact of beating him. I'm a non-conformist . . . in defiance of history."

Marvelous Marvin Hagler, reflecting on his loss to Leonard:
"I feel in my heart that I'm still the champion. I really hate the fact that they took it away from me and gave it to Sugar Ray Leonard, of all people . . . it really leaves a bad taste in my mouth."

Pat Petronelli, on the split decision:
"Jo Jo Guerra should be in jail."

Angelo Dundee, on the decision:
"The guy who voted for Hagler was blind. He'll never work another fight I'm involved in."

Fight judge **Jo Jo Guerra,** on his controversial call:
"They (the other judges) were wrong. Leonard dictated the fight."

Sugar Ray Leonard, on the failure of other great fighters to come back successfully:
"Those guys were old guys. This time, it was a young guy (coming back) against an old guy."

Marvelous Marvin Hagler, on the quality of Leonard's punches:
"He fought like a little girl in there. Those little flurries didn't mean nothing."

Middleweight contender **Robbie Sims,** on his half-brother's future:
"In my personal opinion, he won't quit after this. But I can't believe Leonard will get back in the ring with Marvin."

Hindsight from **Pat Petronelli:**
"From the opening bell, he (Hagler) should have come at Leonard like an animal, no question about it." □

punch must have also given Marvelous Marvin something to think about. The next time Leonard paused to punch, Hagler flinched even before Ray pulled the trigger.

During Round One, Leonard also dusted off a trick borrowed from Muhammad Ali's bag. The first time Hagler got too close for comfort, Leonard reached out and grabbed the champion around the back of the neck in the same fashion Ali had corralled Joe Frazier in their epic series. Though this tactic, repeated throughout the fight, brought several warnings from Steele, Ray was never penalized.

Much has been made of the fact that Hagler, a natural southpaw, opened the bout boxing out of an orthodox stance. While it is true Hagler fared better when fighting lefthanded, it was Leonard's fresh legs, not Hagler's stance, that won the first round on all three official scorecards. Actually, Hagler switched southpaw for the second half of the round and it made no difference. He was simply too slow to catch Leonard regardless of which hand he led with.

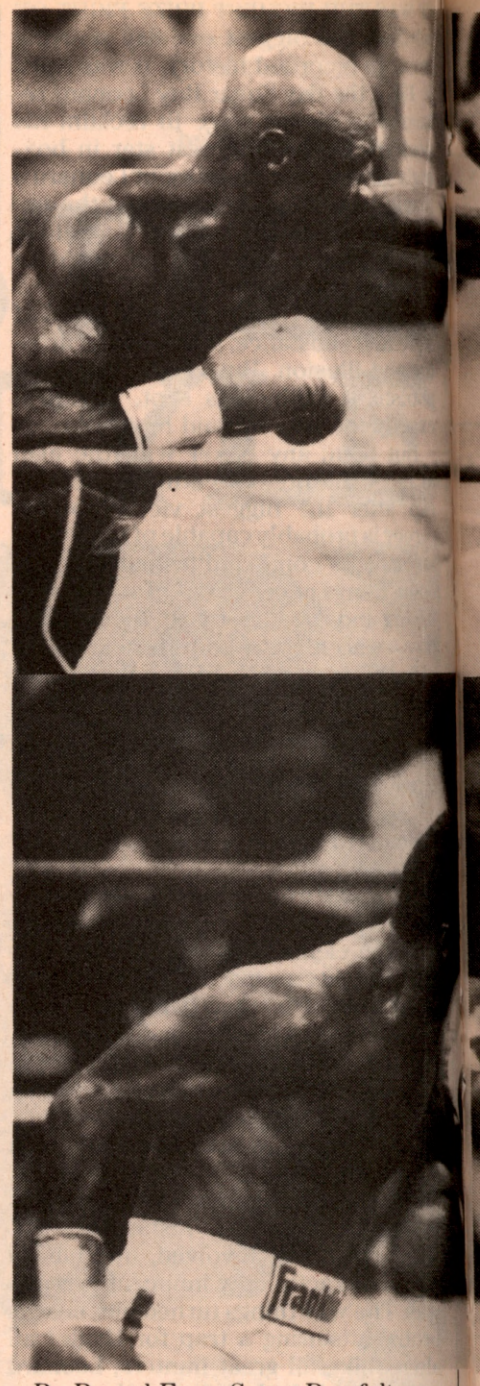
There was almost a Zen-like quality to Leonard's fight. He bent, but refused to break, he used his opponent's strength against him, and perhaps most importantly, he employed psychological warfare to perfection. But don't get the impression Leonard fought like a monk. There was also a touch of cruelty to his handiwork.

The mind games began early. Leonard, who had boldly forecast that he would "mess with Hagler's head," began mugging and making rude faces in the first. In Round Two, he let it all hang out in his successful bid to ruffle the champ's feathers. At one point, he walked away from Hagler a la Jersey Joe Walcott, then spun and connected with a left-right to the head.

Hagler, a rock-hard 158½, played right into Leonard's cunning hands. He blew his cool, lunging after his dancing tormentor with wild swings born of frustration. The mighty middleweight champion, unbeaten in the past 11 years, suddenly looked old, slow and vulnerable.

Round Three was almost a carbon copy of the first two cantos. Leonard's lateral movement kept him out of reach and in control. He peppered Hagler with quick combos and sneak rights, wisely clinching whenever danger threatened.

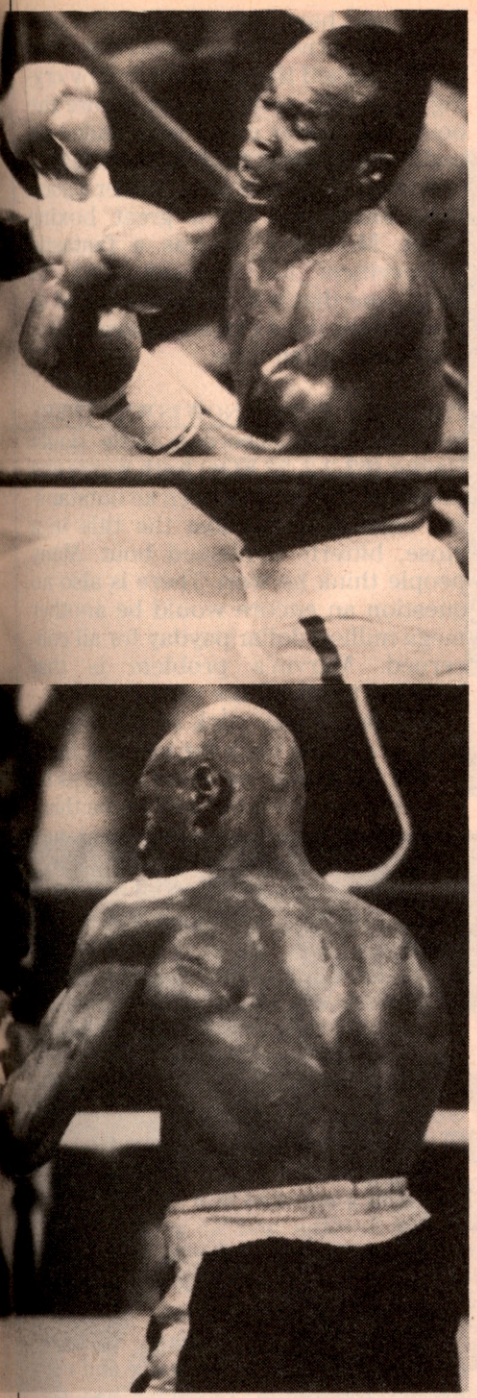
PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA



By Round Four, Sugar Ray felt confident enough to unleash a showboat bolo that landed below the belt. Steele issued a warning, but the crowd howled in delight. Late in the session, Leonard landed a three-point combination to Hagler's face. His timing was remarkable for one who had had but nine rounds of real combat since his first retirement in November of 1982.

Hagler began to reach Leonard with his southpaw jab, but on the few occasions he managed to bull Leonard into

(Top) Hagler has Leonard on the ropes and on the receiving end of a left to the face. Marvelous Marvin's problem was that practically every time he landed a blow such as this, Sugar Ray came back with something flashier to catch the judges' eyes.



the ropes, his once awesome body shots lacked their former potency. When forced to exchange, Leonard's handspeed allowed him to more than hold his own. Those who figured Ray would be finished the first time he stood and swapped punches with Hagler were quickly proven wrong. After four rounds, *The Ring* scorecard had Sugar Ray ahead, four-zip.

Round Five was a dandy. Leonard came out quickly with a right to Hagler's head. The champion took another light 1-2 in the face, but countered with a much harder left hook to Ray's head. Leonard rallied back with a number of sharp rights as the pendulum swung in the challenger's favor once more. However, Hagler would not be denied. He popped in three strong lead rights, hooked well to the body, then came upstairs with another left hook.

Leonard tried to flurry back, but paid for his brashness when Hagler nailed him with a jarring right uppercut that briefly wobbled Sugar's knees. As the crowd gasped, Hagler followed up with a bruising assault that lasted several seconds after the bell. Leonard's day at the beach was over.

Hagler continued to score effectively with his lead right in Round Six. Ray had slowed down a tad and was obliged to fight more and run less. Amazingly, he outpunched Hagler along the ropes and got the better of several bristling exchanges to win the round.

The pace began to tell on Leonard by Round Seven. He came down off his toes and Hagler took full advantage of the situation, punishing Ray with an assortment of blows. Leonard flurried late, but came away the worst for wear when Hagler countered with hard hooks to the head.

Hagler enjoyed another good round in the eighth. He still had his southpaw jab working and Leonard's counter flurries were less frequent. Though Ray's movement made Marvin look foolish at times, he was absorbing far more punches than previously. The astonishing thing was that he took the blows so well!

Round Nine was the best of the fight. Leonard opened with a left-right, Hagler answered with a left hook and then they declared war. Sugar Ray outpunched Marvin in a brief exchange and moved away with Hagler in hot pursuit. Hagler hammered home three rights in a row and Leonard was suddenly in more trouble than at any time during the bout.

Though he looked very weary, Leonard somehow found the energy to fight back. The action see-sawed back and forth, each having his moments. But when all was said and done, it was Hagler who had the better of it, punctuating the round with a solid left-right to the head.

The torrid tempo of the ninth took its toll on both. Round 10 was tame by comparison, but Leonard boxed well, controlling matters without expending too much energy. He stole points with lead right hands and quick flurries, while avoiding most of Hagler's bombs.

Angelo Dundee, who did a masterful job of motivation in Leonard's corner, pulled out all the stops during the rest period leading up to the 11th round.

"Six minutes to the title," Dundee

COUNTRIES WITNESSING THE HAGLER-LEONARD BATTLE

ANTIGUA
ARGENTINA
ARUBA
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BERMUDA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CAYMAN ISLANDS
CHILE
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CURACAO
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EL SALVADOR
FRANCE
GERMANY
GRAND BAHAMAS
GRENADA
GUAM
GUATEMALA
GUYANA
HONDURAS
ITALY
IVORY COAST
JAMAICA
JAPAN
KOREA
LEBANON
MALAYSIA
NASSAU
NEW ZEALAND
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERU
PHILIPPINES
PUERTO RICO
SOUTH AFRICA
THAILAND
TRINIDAD
UNITED KINGDOM
U.S.
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA
VIRGIN ISLANDS

(Below) Hagler catches Leonard coming with a left hook to the chin. One of the more surprising aspects of the bout was how well Sugar Ray absorbed Hagler's punches.

exhorted. "Six minutes, champ. Man, you can do six minutes in your sleep, can't you? Now when he throws his right, I want you to hook."

Despite Leonard's obvious fatigue, the pep talk seemed to have a positive effect. Every time Hagler scored, Leonard came back with something slightly flashier to take the play away. Hagler looked bemused, unable to solve the riddle moving before him just out of reach. As the round wore down, Ray began to clown. He stuck out his face for Hagler to hit, then pulled back out of range before the aging champion could punch the smile off his pretty mug.

With the crowd screaming encouragement, Leonard raised his arms in victory as he moved out to face Hagler for the final three minutes. He obviously believed all he had to do was last the round in order to win.

Naturally, Hagler had other ideas. He continued the chase and finally lured Leonard into a corner and forced him into a toe-to-toe punchout. But when Leonard erupted with close to a dozen clean shots to the head, Marvin backed off and Sugar danced away, cheers ringing in his ears. Nevertheless, Hagler wasn't quite finished. He ignored Ray's version of the "Ali Shuffle" and landed several hard blows in the closing moments of the fight.

When Chuck Hull announced it was a split decision, a moan went up from the crowd. It had been solidly in Hagler's camp before the first bell, but soon switched allegiance when it became apparent Sugar Ray had retained much of his old magic. Judges Dave Moretti and Lou Filippo each scored the bout 115-113, but for different fighters. Moretti favored Leonard and Filippo voted for Hagler. Judge Jo Jo Guerra broke the stalemate, giving Leonard the fight, and the world middleweight championship, by a lopsided and controversial 118-110 margin. *The Ring* agreed with Moretti, scoring 115-113 in Leonard's favor.

Guerra has been severely criticized for his one-sided scorecard. It began with a sourgrapes outburst by Pat Petronelli at the post-fight press conference and continued in many TV and newspaper accounts of the fight. While we scored the match much closer than he did, *The Ring* feels Guerra has been unfairly defamed.

It was a very difficult fight to score. Many rounds were extremely close and who won them is largely a matter of interpretation.

Those who enjoy slick boxing and punches by the bunches probably scored the close rounds for Leonard, while those who prefer aggression and hard punching gave many of the same sessions to Hagler. For better or for worse, boxing seems to be undergoing a gradual metamorphosis away from the latter point of view and toward the former. Fights are stopped much quicker today than ever before, and thanks in large part to the legacy of Muhammad Ali, there is far greater appreciation for boxers who outmaneuver their adversaries. The majority of bouts are still won by the man who inflicts the most damage, but in a close contest, more consideration is being given to finer points of the art than in the past.

It was a very difficult fight to score. Many rounds were extremely close and who won them is largely a matter of interpretation.

Another notion worthy of debunking is the old myth which claims a champion has to be beaten by a large margin in order to lose his crown. This is utter nonsense. A brief look at the history of the middleweight division is proof positive.

Both of the Sugar Ray Robinson-Carmen Basilio bouts were decided by split decisions . . . and the title changed hands on both occasions. More recently, Vito Antuofermo took the 160-pound title away from Hugo Corro via a split nod and Alan Minter, in turn, did the same thing to Antuofermo. Unless we are going to abandon the points system as a method of deciding the winner of bouts which go the distance, a man who wins by even one point has to be declared the winner—even if he is challenging a living legend such as Hagler.

One factor that definitely helped Leonard was the 12-round distance. It was something he wanted badly and the Petronelli brothers did Hagler a disservice when they agreed to forego the traditional 15-round course in favor of a larger chunk of the purse. A 15-rounder would have also provided a much more definitive conclusion. But both parties signed the contract and by crying over milk spilt months before the bout, the Hagler camp only added an unnecessary sour note to its defeat.

It was not a *great* fight, rather a *good* fight enveloped by a great boxing event. Moreover, it was a fantastic achievement for Leonard (34-1, 24 KOs), one that will be remembered as perhaps the most extraordinary boxing comeback of all time.

THE BIG QUESTION NOW IS WILL THERE be a rematch. There is little doubt Hagler (62-3-2, 52 KOs) both wants and deserves one. He has been an outstanding champion and lost the title in a close, bitterly contested bout. Many people think he won. There is also no question an encore would be another mega-million dollar payday for all concerned. Marvin's problem is that Leonard holds all the cards.

Will Sugar Ray stick to his original plan of coming back for just one fight, or will he change his mind again as he has done so often before? Some think Leonard craves the spotlight so much his ego will demand he fight on. Others feel he has nothing left to gain and will go out on top. Of course, rumors are running wild.

Emanuel Steward, manager of WBC light heavyweight boss Tommy Hearns, claims the "Hit Man" will finally get another crack at Leonard, giving both boxers a chance at winning a fourth world title. Sugar Ray gave credence to this theory when he grabbed the ring mike immediately after the Hagler fight and told a stunned world, "I'll see you in six months and 15 pounds later." However, by the time he got to the press conference, Sugar laughed and said it was all just a joke.

HBO's Seth Abraham certainly hopes Leonard will be back and confirmed the cable TV giant had earmarked a "substantial" part of its boxing budget to buy a future Leonard fight.

Mike Trainer, Leonard's lawyer and confidant, said he doesn't know what Ray will do, but insisted he had conducted no negotiations concerning a possible future fight for Leonard.

By the time you read this, Leonard may very well have made up his mind. But whatever the future holds for Sugar Ray, you can be sure he'll do it in style. □

SUPERFIGHT ACTION

PHOTO BY WILL HART/HBO

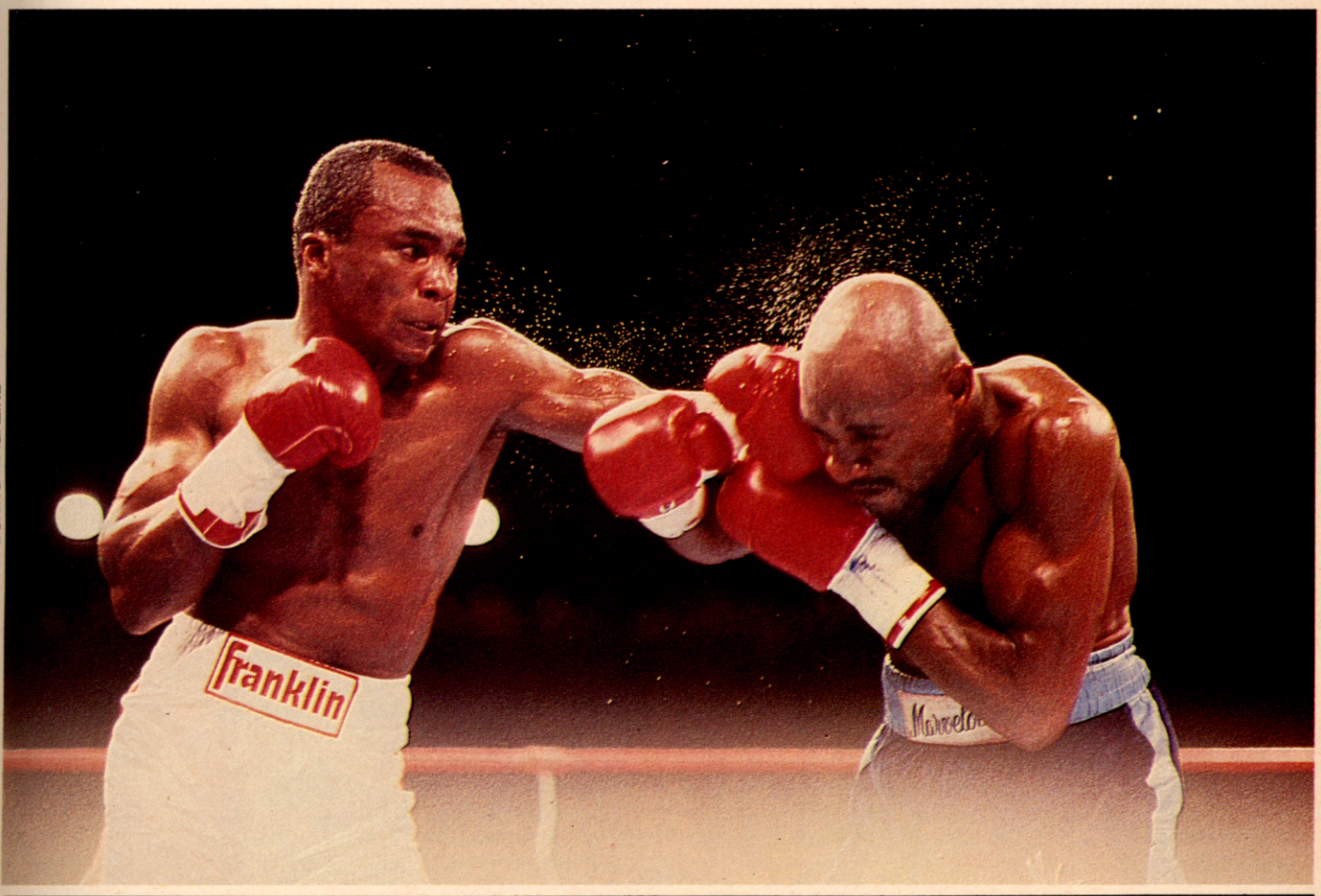


PHOTO BY KAZUMICHI HAYASHI/JAPAN BOXING MAGAZINE

The RING RATINGS

as of May 4, 1987

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(No Weight Limit)
WORLD CHAMPION

MICHAEL SPINKS	St. Louis, Mo.
1. **Mike Tyson**	Catskill, N.Y.
2. **Pinklon Thomas**	Wyandotte, Mich.
3. **James Smith**	Magnolia, N.C.
4. **Tim Witherspoon**	Philadelphia, Pa.
5. **Evander Holyfield**	Atlanta, Ga.
6. **Tyrell Biggs**	Philadelphia, Pa.
7. **Trevor Berbick**	Canada
8. **James Douglas**	Columbus, Ohio
9. **Tony Tucker**	Grand Rapids, Mich.
10. **Bert Cooper**	Philadelphia, Pa.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 175 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Marvin Johnson**	Indianapolis, Ind.
2. **Bobby Czyz**	Wanaque, N.J.
3. **Thomas Hearns**	Detroit, Mich.
4. **Dennis Andries**	England
5. **Eddie Davis**	Freeport, N.Y.
6. **Leslie Stewart**	Trinidad
7. **Virgil Hill**	Grand Forks, N.D.
8. **Chong-Pal Park**	Korea
9. **Ramzi Hassan**	Campo, California
10. **Willie Edwards**	Detroit, Mich.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(Not Over 160 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

RAY LEONARD	Potomac, Maryland
1. **Marvin Hagler**	Brockton, Mass.
2. **Herol Graham**	England
3. **Michael Olajide**	Canada
4. **Mike McCallum**	New York, N.Y.
5. **Iran Barkley**	New York, N.Y.
6. **Robbie Sims**	Brockton, Mass
7. **Donald Curry**	Ft. Worth, Texas
8. **Michael Nunn**	Sherman Oaks, Calif.
9. **Frank Tate**	Houston, Texas
10. **Duane Thomas**	Detroit, Mich.

WELTERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 147 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

LLOYD HONEYGHAN	England
1. **Mark Breland**	Brooklyn, N.Y.
2. **Marlon Starling**	Hartford, Conn.
3. **Tommy Ayers**	Cincinnati, Ohio
4. **Maurice Blocker**	Washington, D.C.
5. **Simon Brown**	Washington, D.C.
6. **Tyrone Trice**	Detroit, Mich.
7. **Patrizio Oliva**	Italy
8. **Tsuyoshi Hamada**	Japan
9. **Frankie Warren**	Corpus Christi, Texas
10. **Terry Marsh**	England

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(Not Over 135 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Hector Camacho**	New York, N.Y.
2. **Edwin Rosario**	Puerto Rico
3. **Greg Haugen**	Auburn, Wash.
4. **Julio Cesar Chavez**	Mexico
5. **Pernell Whitaker**	Norfolk, Va.
6. **Terrence Alli**	New York
7. **Meldrick Taylor**	Philadelphia, Pa.
8. **Frankie Randall**	Morristown, Tenn.
9. **Vinny Pazienza**	Rhode Island
10. **Emancio Castro**	Colombia

FEATHERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 126 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA	Venezuela
1. **Azumah Nelson**	Ghana
2. **Steve Cruz**	Ft. Worth, Texas
3. **Calvin Grove**	Pottstown, Pa.
4. **Barry McGuigan**	Ireland
5. **Antonio Rivera**	Puerto Rico
6. **Samart Payakaroon**	Thailand
7. **Louie Espinosa**	Phoenix, Arizona
8. **Victor Callejas**	Puerto Rico
9. **Marcos Villasana**	Mexico
10. **Hector Lopez**	Glendale, California

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(Not Over 118 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Miguel Lora**	Colombia
2. **Kaosai Galaxy**	Thailand
3. **Gilberto Roman**	Mexico
4. **Jiro Watanabe**	Japan
5. **Gaby Canizales**	Laredo, Texas
6. **Greg Richardson**	Youngstown, Ohio
7. **Albert Davila**	Pomona, Calif.
8. **Kelvin Seabrooks**	Charlotte, N.C.
9. **Santos Laciar**	Argentina
10. **Takuyama Muguruma**	Japan

FLYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 112 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

SOT CHITALADA	Thailand
1. **Jung-Koo Chang**	Korea
2. **Fidel Bassa**	Colombia
3. **Myung-Woo Yuh**	Korea
4. **Hilario Zapata**	Panama
5. **Dodie Penalosa**	Philippines
6. **Paul Gonzales**	Los Angeles, Calif.
7. **Gabriel Bernal**	Mexico
8. **Benedicto Murillo**	Panama
9. **Rodolfo Blanco**	Colombia
10. **Rae-Ki Ahn**	Korea

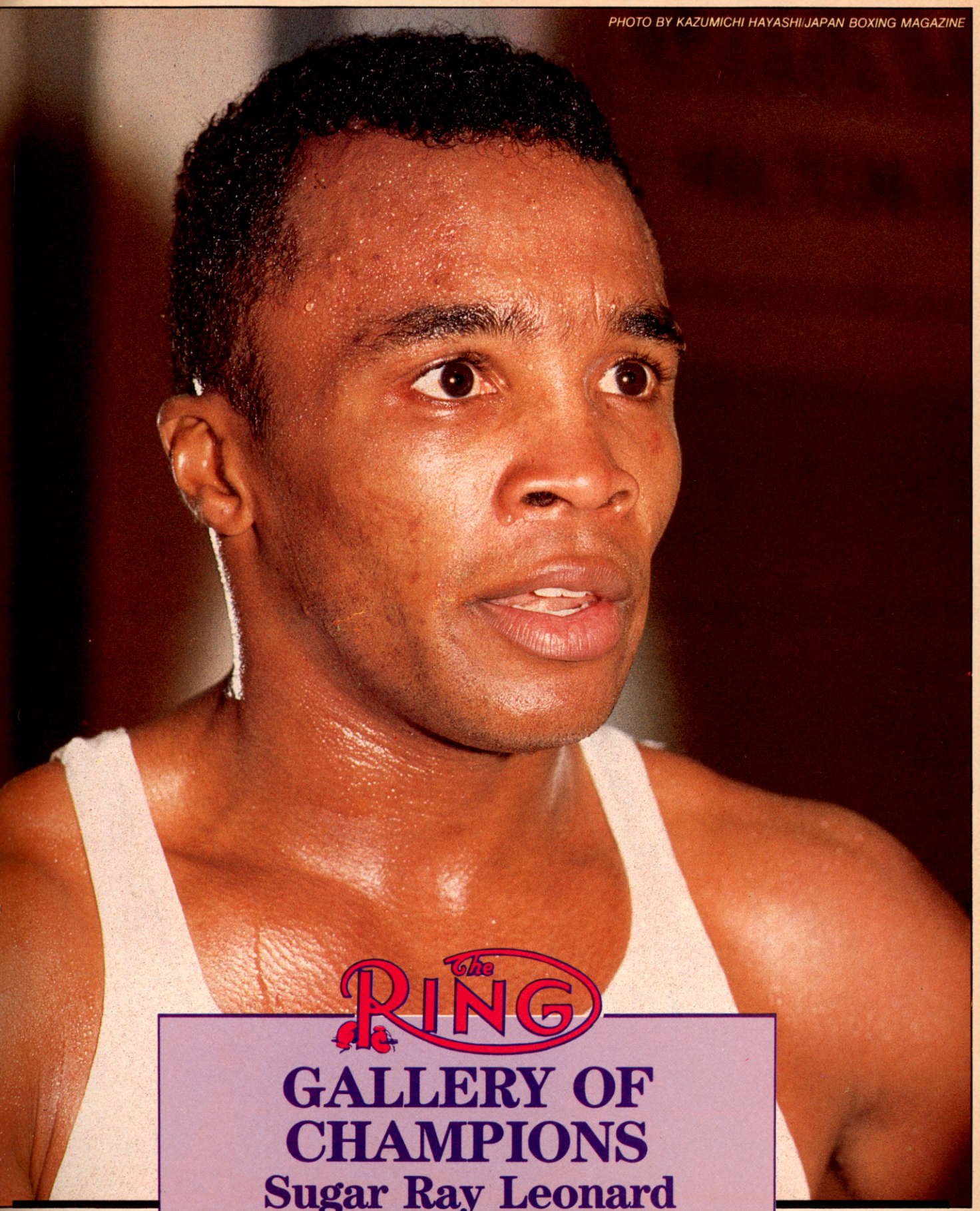


PHOTO BY KAZUMICHI HAYASHI/JAPAN BOXING MAGAZINE

The RING

GALLERY OF CHAMPIONS

Sugar Ray Leonard

Middleweight Champion

SUPERFIGHT ACTION

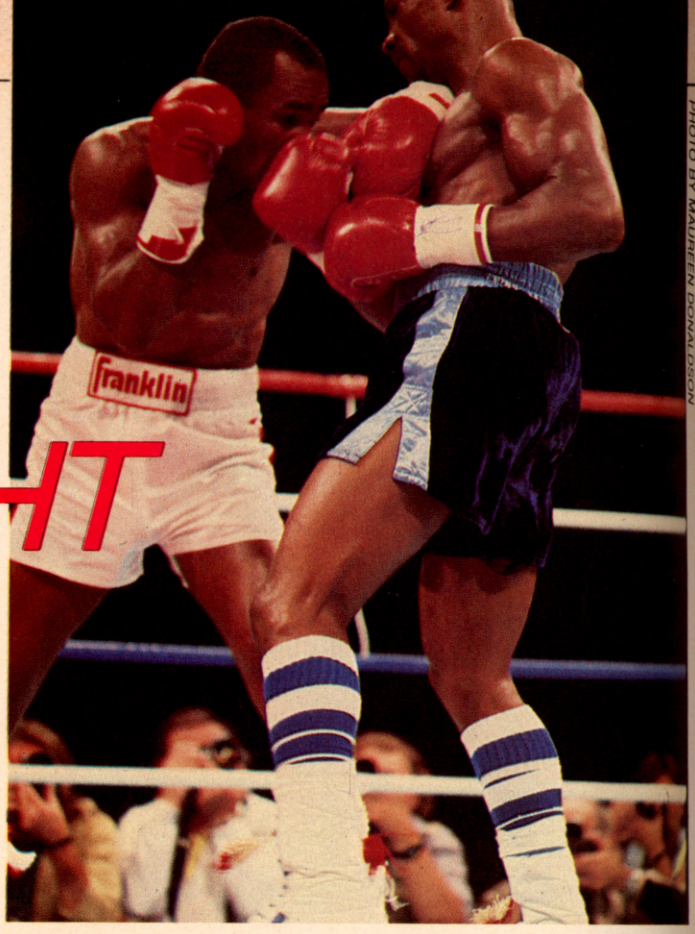


PHOTO BY MAUREEN DONALDSON

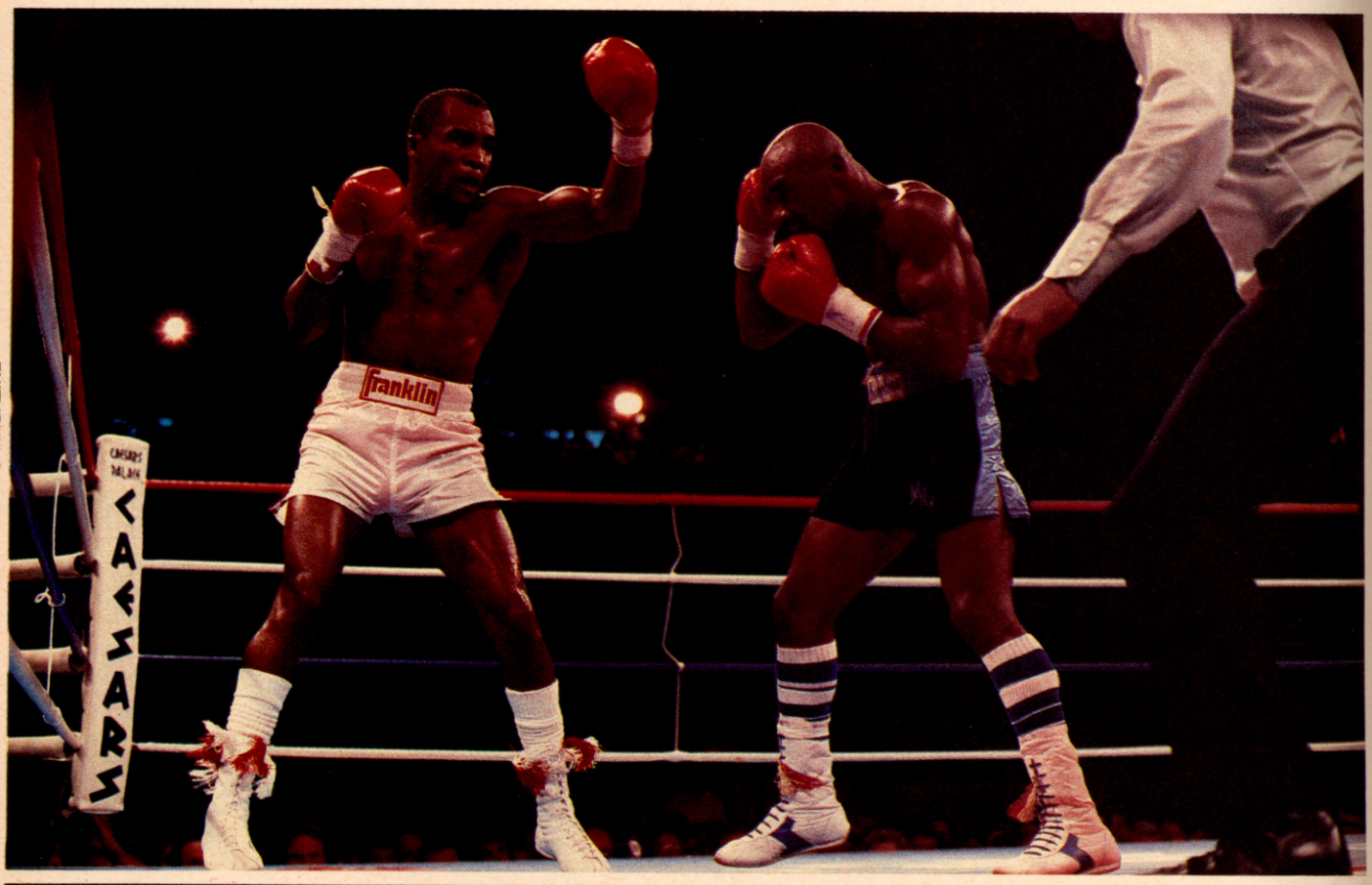


PHOTO BY KAZUMICHI HAYASHI/JAPAN BOXING MAGAZINE

PUNCH COUNTER PUNCH

Each month, in an effort to stimulate creative debate, *RING* Magazine will ask a cross section of boxing people a provocative question. We will publish their thoughts, giving you a wide range of views, half-views and even a few half-baked views.

THIS MONTH'S QUESTION:

Who do you think really won the Leonard-Hagler fight?

Michael Katz *(1981 winner of the Nat Fleischer Memorial Award for excellence in boxing journalism):*
I had it 8-3-1 for Leonard. He controlled Hagler, turning a champion undefeated in 11 years into a plodding old man. He did it on legs that were not evident to me in training. He did it with wile and guts and a nasty temperament. He taunted and frustrated as he walked his tightrope, Hagler slowly but menacingly chasing, waiting for Leonard's mistakes but unable to take advantage of them.

Bill Gallo *(sports columnist, **New York Daily News**):*
I found my scorecard to have Hagler slightly ahead after the 12th. You don't want to see a champion lose the crown on such a close duke. It is simply an unwritten law that says the champ must be decisively beaten. No split decisions, no ifs ands and buts. Just a solid, unquestionable victory. Leonard won by his grand art of escaping. Sugar was Houdini out there.

Howard Cosell *(Former boxing writer, currently trying to jump back on the bandwagon):*
In my view, all talk of Hagler being the real winner is not based on a factual assessment of Hagler's performance in the ring. This reporter scored it this way: rounds one, two, three and four to Leonard; he won them easily. Rounds five, six and seven to Hagler; round eight even. Round nine to Hagler, and the rest clearly to Sugar Ray Leonard.

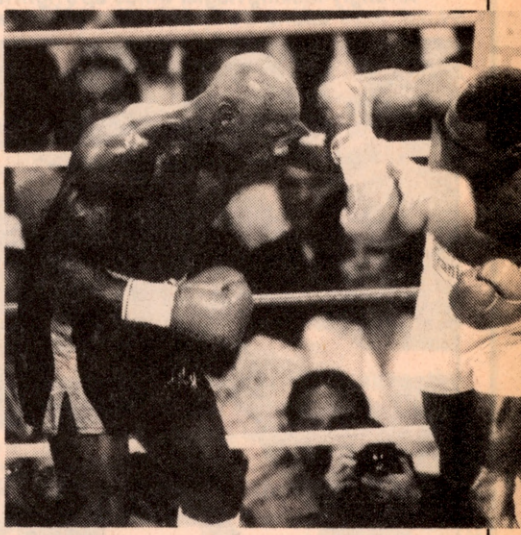
Stan Hochman *(sports columnist, **Philadelphia Daily News**):*
I had it 116-112 for Leonard, based on effective punches landed, based on defensive skill. Hagler has this old-fashioned idea that a challenger has to be aggressive, a clear winner, to dethrone a champion. That's a myth. Fights are decided round by round by round.

Jim Murray *(Sports columnist, **Los Angeles Times**):*
It wasn't even close . . . Hey, maybe Jeffries couldn't do it. Maybe Johnson, Dempsey, a half dozen names from out of the past. But don't put Sugar Ray Leonard in there. He did it. He came back. Did he ever. Calling on skills you wouldn't think he could even remember, he put a hurt on Marvelous Marvin Hagler. But that was nothing to what he did to Father Time. He stopped that old imposter right in his tracks.

Phill Marder *(Managing editor, **The Ring**):*
It had it 6-6. I thought Leonard won five of the first six rounds and the 11th. But it was too close for either fighter to complain about losing the decision.

Floyd Patterson *(Former world heavyweight champion):*
I thought it was a very, very close fight, but that Leonard had a slight edge. However, as I am opposed to 12-round title bouts, maybe it would have been better if they had scored it a draw and then made a rematch over 15 rounds.

Michael Olajide *(Undefeated middleweight contender):*
I feel Hagler gave away the early rounds by starting off so slowly and not coming out southpaw. Overall, I think he was lucky if he won four rounds. Though some people are saying Hagler's age caught up with him, I think it was more a matter of styles. Marvin hadn't fought anyone with Sugar Ray's hand and foot speed in a long time. Also, the Petronelli brothers were too laid back in the corner. They failed to light a fire under Hagler's butt when they really needed to.



Sugar Ray Leonard (right) fights off the ropes during his controversial victory over Marvelous Marvin Hagler. Read "Punch/Counterpunch" for some expert opinions on who really won.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Dave Bontempo *(Boxing writer for the **Atlantic City Press** and color commentator for ESPN-TV):*
I had it a draw, 114-114. I gave Leonard five of the first six rounds and Hagler five of the last six. The big factor for Sugar Ray was his effective counterpunching on the move. It was one of the rare times I've seen someone run for a purpose (except to catch a bus). Marvin finally did some damage in the fifth and had the fight in his quarters the second half of the fight. But he couldn't do enough when he got Ray into toe-to-toe exchanges. Marvin lacked the hand speed to take advantage of Leonard in the late rounds. Even though I scored it even, Sugar Ray looked better winning his rounds than Hagler did his. That could very well have swayed the judges.

LEONARD BEATS THE ODDS

Upwards Of $20 Million Wagered On SuperFight

by Jack Welsh

An angry-looking Hagler winds up a right hook as Leonard prepares to get out of Dodge. Leonard's upset victory proved a bonanza for Vegas' sports books.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

FOUR HOURS BEFORE SUGAR RAY Leonard defied all percentages known to man in slicking away Marvelous Marvin Hagler's last diamond in the world middleweight crown, the phone rang in the press area adjacent to Caesars Palace's outdoor stadium.

Lou D'Amico, whose daily bread is earned as Caesars' Olympiad sports book manager and handicapper, was on the line with the last serious gambling flash before the first bell triggering 12 rounds of combat accurately hyped as the SuperFight.

Once the now upset of the ages was announced last November, there was never any question Nevada records for betting on a fist fight would fall.

D'Amico's message to Debbie Munch, who endured admirably in screening 1,100 international media accreditations as manager of Caesars' editorial services, substantiated with emphasis that dawn's early light would bring a new Silver State standard of $20 million wagered.

"Tell the press guys down there who are interested that we just took two $100,000 bets—one on Hagler and one on Leonard," the oddsmaker advised. "Both were cash transactions. Neither bettor hesitated filling out the government forms (giving identification on any bet over $10,000 in any 24-hour period, a disturbing federal edict arriving from Washington, D.C., two years ago). Both players were from out of town."

Artistically and financially successful, the heralded showdown of multi-millionaire champions enabled most licensed bookmakers from Las Vegas to Reno-Lake Tahoe, in the north, to Laughlin, Nevada, nestled on the Colorado River, to fill ledgers with black ink in what should stand as a new all-time record when the Nevada Gaming Commission stamps the final figures as official.

The previous high of $15 million was written April 15, 1985 at Caesars Palace where Hagler fostered his believed invincibility by annihilating Thomas Hearns in three spectacular rounds. Regardless of whether the public took a shot with Leonard as a +$3.00 underdog in most venues, sports book operators, who consistently hedge about profits, had to concede this time. The most notable profit coming from a -$2.40 proposition the fight would go the scheduled dozen heats.

While it was virtual betting bonanzas in all precincts, Caesars Palace's sprawling glamour was the focal point for much of the estimated 150,000 visitors arriving for the greatest single one-day sports event in history.

Rossi Ralenkotter, director of tourism for the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, said he would "need a month before final figures my department deals with would be available" on the combined promotion of Caesars and Top Rank, Inc. However, Ralenkotter was comfortable with a solid guesstimate that the Vegas economy was enhanced at least $100 million in actual revenue.

"The indirect impact of Las Vegas' volume should reach $350 million, scaled by a new multiplier effect where the tourist dollar turns over 2.2 times. This would eclipse the old mark of $291.4 million set when Hagler beat Hearns two years ago," Ralenkotter said. "The actual cash circulating then was $88.3 million. Two key factors for such huge revenue beyond the natural charisma of Leonard-Hagler was the four-day weekend, plus 30,000 closed-circuit TV seats available in seven hotels. And don't forget the city had 4,000 more hotel rooms than we had in '85."

Bob Arum, Top Rank's board chairman, indicated world-wide gross receipts would reach between $70 and $80 million through closed-circuit, Pay-Per-View, cable and foreign television contracts. If accurate, Hagler's total earnings, based on a guaranteed $12 million plus escalating percentage deals, would land between $18 and $20 million, unchallenged as the richest purse in boxing history.

Leonard's contract was a guaranteed $11 million, plus gross receipts from closed-circuit TV rights in Washington, D.C., Baltimore and northern Virginia. The new middleweight champion fig-

ures to wind up with a minimum $12.5 million.

Veteran Strip gamers estimated Caesar's volume "may be very close" to the projected $5 million in wagers, considering it was unrelenting wall-to-wall people over the four-day April weekend with its Olympiad book opened practically around the clock...

"It was a captive audience beyond the 15,336 spectators who created a new all-time live gate of $7.9 million by buying up all the seats in two weeks after they went on sale in November. They were staying put rather than trying to shop around for a better price. This was particularly true of guests and visitors," D'Amico informed. "It took me 45 minutes to get back from ringside to the sports book after the fight. Normally, that's just a couple of minutes walk, so that should tell you how crowded we were."

D'Amico, intimating the final handle might exceed $20 million, offered some bold opinions if Leonard should meet Hagler in a rematch, perhaps later in the year.

"If they signed a contract to fight tomorrow in Las Vegas within six months, there wouldn't be enough money in the country to cover the action. Everybody alive would be betting this fight. We'd make it 6-5 pick 'em and let 'em bet."

Caesars' management, like its peers on and off the Strip, had to be delighted with the appropriately styled "Destiny in the Desert:"

"Caesars had a substantial win on the fight, far more than the winning volume on Hagler-Hearns. We had a few $50,000 shots on both sides. It was common place to take $30,000 and $20,000 bets on both fighters. There were also some $10,000 plays on Leonard to win by a decision. We closed Hagler at —$3.40, Leonard +$2.60. The guy who bet $100,000 on Ray won $260,000 plus his money back," D'Amico said.

"If Ray had had a fight or two before meeting Hagler, the handle might have gone to $25 million. It's possible we might have made a mild threat toward the Super Bowl which was over $45 million. There were a lot of people who wanted to bet on Leonard, but they were reluctant because of his inactivity, only one fight in five years. If they fought four years ago, Leonard would have been the favorite."

Down the Strip at Little Caesars, where Gene Maday takes the largest wagers in captivity in all sports events, a house profit was assured by 40 different propositions on the bout.

"We had plenty of play on Hagler to win by decision and by kayo. We also had the best price in town with Hagler at −$3.60 and Leonard at +$3.40," Maday said. "There was one out-of-towner who bet Leonard at +$2.60 earlier, laying $25,00 to win $75,000. We always said we'd take more than Caesars Palace, but we didn't have any $100 grand plays. But we'd taken double that figure if anybody wanted it.

"One of our regulars from California came in for seven consecutive days to bet $10,000 daily on Hagler. There also was a $60,000 shot on Marvin. Six guys from Boston came in, each betting $10,000 on Hagler. We won on practically all our propositions."

Art Manteris, who directs the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel-Casino's race and sports book, acknowledged the Hagler-Leonard handle "went well over seven figures, but it wasn't a big win for the house."

"You might say it was just about a push and that's disappointing in view of the volume we had. We had some $50,000 plays on both fighters, there were some at $25,000 and plenty of shots at $10,000," Manteris said. "Action on the fight itself was the biggest part of our handle. But there were a lot of people believing in miracles and that's what happened when Leonard won."

Scotty Schettler, who directs the Stardust Hotel-Casino's race and sports book, contends some of his colleagues "tend to hallucinate on the betting figures when it comes to big fights like Leonard-Hagler," but admits the betting volume was a big day for the management without disclosing any serious figures.

"I don't think the $10,000 ruling hurt the books because it scatters the guys to other places who want to get down for more action," Schettler advised. "Of course, Leonard and Hagler was a great betting fight."

Downtown at the popular Union Plaza Hotel-Casino on Fremont street, manager John Quinn insists "$15 million handle would be low on this fight, more like $20 million or better."

"We closed Hagler at −$3.50, Leonard at +$3.00. If Hagler had got the decision, and I think he should have the way Leonard ran, we would have won four times as much in our final volume," Quinn said. "Caesars had to do very well because their clientele aren't shoppers for prices, they stay right there. Our biggest bets were like the three guys who came in to each bet $10,000 on Leonard at +$2.50, and on the day of the fight, there was a $12,000 wager on Hagler to win $4,000, and another at $9,000 to collect $3,000."

Jack Franzi, veteran linemaker at the Barbary Coast, contends the $10,000 ruling "is a killer in super events like this fight.

"Money-wise, it was the best we've ever had, certainly over seven figures, but it could have been even bigger. I'm not sure it exceeded $15 million. But there has never been a fight to capture the imagination of the public like this one."

At the Bally-Las Vegas, Nate Wilfson, who manages the sports book for Jimmy Vaccaro, said "we stayed at a $50,000 limit, and would have taken more but nobody wanted to fill out the federal forms."

Bob Gregorka, who manages the Frontier race and sports book, noted "the house nearly swept its 40 propositions on the fight.

"We only lost on the fight going 12 rounds and Leonard winning the decision. There was plenty of $10,000 bets, but the ruling had to hurt. The hotel brought in 300 guests just for the fight and that helped us go well over seven figures."

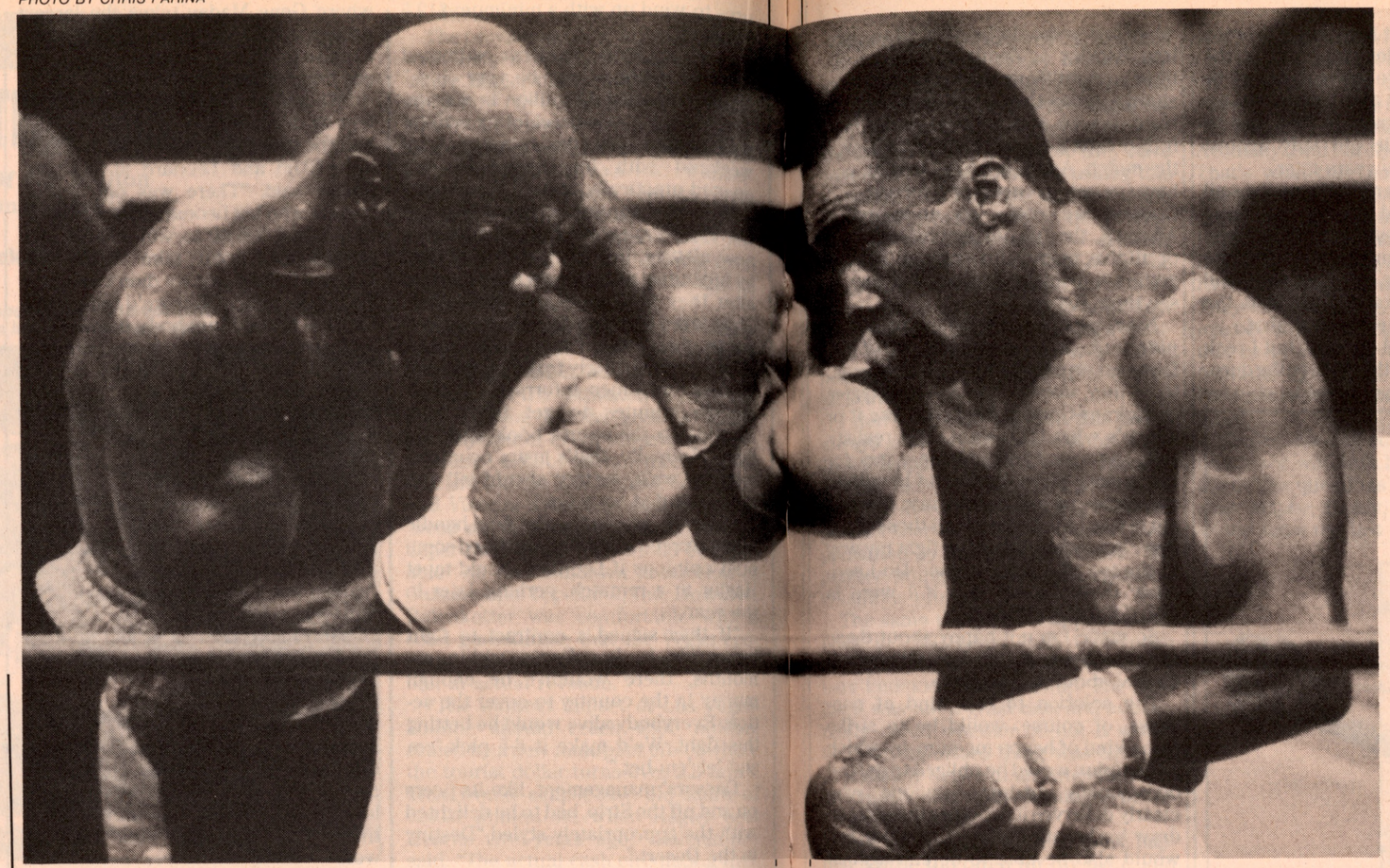
Sig Rogich, president of R & R Advertising in Las Vegas and a member of the Nevada State Athletic Commission, seemed to have summed up the impact of the megabucks production as well as any one.

"If this fight did nothing but break even, it would have been a marvelous event for Las Vegas because there were datelines in newspapers everywhere in the world," Rogich said. "This is a city that works 24 hours a day to keep its name before the public and Hagler-Leonard was another great example of a special event in what I consider to be the special events and entertainment capital of the world. Hagler-Leonard contributed 100 million in dollars to our city and it keeps the momentum moving positively. You can't measure the impact of events such as this for a city that thrives on tourism for its livelihood. This fight was the zenith, the apex."

Rematch, anyone? □

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Muhammad Ali was another boxer who disproved the old cliche: "they never come back" when he knocked out George Foreman to regain the heavyweight title in 1974.



Typical boxing ballyhoo from the 19th century. THE RING'S senior writer, Joe D'O'Brian, feels that all too often the fight, in and of itself, is overshadowed by the hype surrounding the event.

While a lot of fans dispute the official decision in the Leonard-Hagler bout, many others feel Sugar Ray (right) shouldn't have been allowed to challenge for the middleweight title in the first place.

SUPERBOUTS, SUPERDOUBTS

By Joseph D'O'Brian

THE LEONARD-HAGLER BOUT IS HISTORY (and a damn good thing I didn't have any money on it), and articles have been drawn up for a Michael Spinks-Gerry Cooney showdown (assuming one of them doesn't get a hangnail or something between now and fight time). These two bouts present three big questions.

The first is a moral question: Is it right and proper for two guys who have done practically nothing in the ring in the past five years to suddenly be handed title shots, while deserving fighters who have worked hard, but who don't have the same drawing power, get passed over?

The second question challenges a long-held belief: Is it really true that a long layoff, such as Leonard and Cooney have each experienced, will sap your talents to the extent that you can't ever be a world-class fighter again?

The third question is one of aesthetics: It seems that nowadays, the fight itself is considerably less important to everyone concerned than the surrounding hoopla. Is this sport becoming as bad as pro wrestling?

Well, that second question would appear, on the face of things, to have been answered by the Leonard-Hagler bout. I picked Hagler to win, so I don't like to admit this, but Leonard fought a strong, smart fight, and he clearly won on my card. And while you might be right in protesting that Hagler's talents have slipped in the past year, that's not a good enough excuse. Leonard did as well against him, in my opinion, as he'd have done in 1982.

So, what happened to that old truism, "They never come back?" Didn't all the most famous comebacks, such as Jim Jeffries' in 1910, Jack Dempsey's in 1926, Joe Louis' in 1950 and Benny Leonard's in 1931, end in disaster? And that's not to mention some of the more laughable comeback efforts we've seen over the years, such as Jerry Quarry's, Joe Frazier's or Bob Foster's.

What happened to that "truism" is nothing. It never was the truth. Most fighters fail to come back for reasons that are perfectly plain. Jeff failed against Jack Johnson in 1910 partly because Johnson would have whipped him at any time, and partly because Jeffries just didn't train that hard. He'd been told that the fight was fixed, and this he believed until the fixers had to admit that negotiations had fallen through. They broke this sad news to Jeff on the night before the fight, and you can bet that he did not enter the ring well-rested.

Dempsey lost to Tunney for parallel reasons: He hadn't taken the fight seriously, and he had a lot of other things on his mind anyway, such as his budding acting career (which never flowered) and his failing marriage (which did fail, finally). And, yeah, the layoff did hurt. He hadn't fought since his four-minute scrap with Luis Firpo in 1923, and he was plenty rusty.

But think of how many comebacks turned out positively, even when they weren't supposed to. Muhammad Ali, when he came back in the 1970s after a layoff of nearly four years, was not the same fighter he'd been in the 60s, but he was as good as ever.

Ray Robinson retired in 1952, following his abortive run at the light heavyweight title, but he came back in a couple of years to regain the middleweight crown, and he held it, on and off, into the 1960s.

Sonny Liston appeared finished after Ali polished him off in their 1965 rematch, but he came back after a couple of years' vacation to damn near recapture the title.

Tony Zale took some time off in the 1940s to help win the Second World Difference of Opinion, but he, too, was just about as good as ever when he got the gloves back on.

I think it's a matter of will. If you've got the tools to begin with, and if you're willing to bust your butt to get back into the kind of shape you enjoyed way back when—well, you may have lost a step or two, as any fighter will as he gets older, but that's going to happen whether you're fighting or not. It's the psychological tools, not the physical ones, that can suffer the worst damage from a prolonged layoff.

Psychological tools are the reason why I don't believe Cooney's long weekend away from the ring will be a factor in his bout with Spinks. His ability to clobber people senseless doesn't seem to have been affected, and clearly his vision of himself as God's Anointed is as steady as ever. Spinks is the guy who can be hurt by not fighting. His great performance against Holmes was described by one critic as an "athletic frenzy," a kind of a fugue state in which he turned in a brilliant piece of work without ever regaining consciousness. If he can sleepwalk through the Cooney fight as he did against Holmes, he'll win. If, instead of working like a looney and whipping himself into that kind of froth, he sits around and thinks about the fight, Cooney will tear him apart.

Okay, Cooney has a very good chance of beating Spinks, whether or

not he's done anything since he fought Holmes. But that still leaves us with the question of whether or not it's morally right for these two to get together, seeing as how Cooney plainly doesn't deserve the shot, and about a half-dozen other heavyweights plainly do. And while we're at it, a lot of people were plenty pissed off about Ray Leonard, adorable as he is, landing his match with Hagler without having earned it.

I will say up front that I was outraged that these two matches were made. Cooney was once the second-best heavyweight in the world, but that was a long time ago. He might or might not be the second-best heavyweight in the world today, but let him prove it, the way anybody has to prove it before he gets in there with the champ. As for Leonard, he was great in 1982, but he fought like a little old lady against Kevin Howard two years later.

So he beat Hagler! So he made us all look like fools and proved that taking time off isn't necessarily a fighter's ruination! I'll grant him all that. I'm talking about the principle, not the result, and the principle I'm talking about is the one that says you earn your shot.

That's how I feel about it, but I realize that there's another side to the question. Let's face it, you have to wonder why Hagler should be obliged to fight Iran Barkley or Spinks should be obliged to fight Tony Tucker for chump change when they have an unbelievable paycheck staring them in the face if they fight a guy who doesn't deserve the match. And if it comes to that, you have to ask yourself if Leonard and Cooney are really so undeserving! After all, they're not getting the shot, or all that money, for nothing. They're getting it because people will pay to see them fight.

Now, we can accuse the fans of bad judgment, or of poor taste, or of unfairness, or of whatever else we want to, if they insist on a Leonard-Hagler or Holmes-Cooney bout. But like it or not, it's what they want. And realistically, we can hardly blame a guy for not saying, "Geez, I'd like a $12 million guarantee for just getting into the ring but it wouldn't be fair to all those other fine contenders. I'd rather fight my way to the top like anyone else." Do I seriously think I'd say that if I were in Gerry Cooney's shoes?

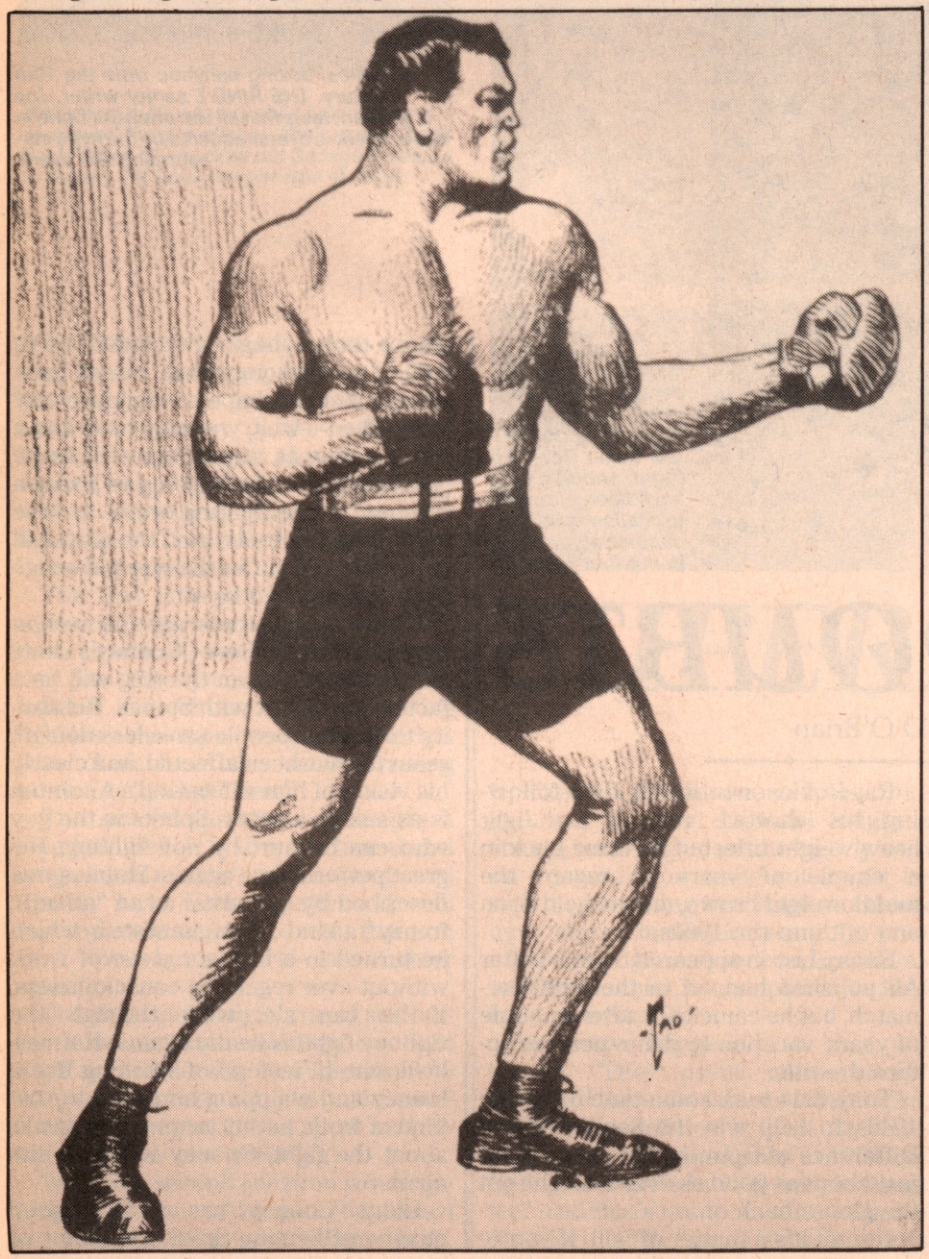
So while I'm not happy about these matches being made, I might as well be real about it, I suppose.

The solution to this kind of nonsense, of course, would be to strike some kind of happy medium by which a champion would be obliged to defend occasionally against someone who clearly deserves it, whether the guy can draw his breath at the gate or not, but would also be able to defend against Gerry Cooney or Princess Margaret or a rabid chimpanzee if he wanted to.

We could do that, too, if boxing were controlled by a single organization of honest people. That organization could name one mandatory challenger per division per year, a challenger who has established himself through an officially organized series of elimination bouts, fought by real contenders. This system is used in professional chess, and it works. The champ would then be required to make at least one other defense each year, but this defense would be against whomever he wanted.

As I say, that would work if there were an honest governing body in this sport. But there ain't. There have been two honest men in the history of boxing: One of them is dead, and nobody can recall the other guy's address.

That brings us to the third question: Is the aesthetic integrity of boxing (as



An idolized illustration of James J. Jeffries, whose ill-advised comeback against Jack Johnson ended in dismal defeat.

opposed to its moral integrity, of which there is precious little) being compromised by these highly ballyhooed bouts between guys who might or might not make a good fight, and who are only in the ring because they have high name recognition? By asking this question, I am implying that too much attention is being paid to the promotion, to the advertising, to drawing parallels between one fighter or the other and *Rocky*, or some such crap. The fight, in and of itself, is somehow secondary. Boxing is becoming a theatrical event on the order of a match between Hulk Hogan and Chief Wahoo McDaniel.

I don't mean to say that this hasn't always gone on, to some extent. When Jack Dempsey and Georges Carpentier met in 1921, the fight itself was not really an important thing. What was important there was the romantic ideal presented by the slim, handsome Carpentier going in to do battle against a villainous bruiser.

The same thing even happened way back in 1860 when John C. Heenan and Tom Sayers met for the world's bare-knuckle championship. The fight itself was not a great one, and nobody really cared whether or not it would be. The important thing was the idea of a match between an American and an Englishman, each claiming to be the "true" champion.

Still, promotions such as these happen a little too often for my taste, and I wonder if the effect on the fight itself isn't detrimental. Have you ever noticed that an important fight that's important because it involves two deserving opponents usually turns out to be a hell of a fight? Whereas a fight that's important because one or both principals are popular (though not necessarily deserving) is seldom memorable.

Take the recent Leonard-Hagler scrap. It wasn't a bad fight, but it was far from a great one. A friend of mine explained the situation to me like this:

"When you go to a rock concert at the Academy of Music, it's a lot different from going to one at Madison Square Garden," he said. "At the Academy, the music's the important thing, and if the band wants people to appreciate them, they'll put on a good show. At Madison Square Garden, it's the event, not the music, that's important. The musicians know this, and you'll notice that when they play the Garden, the songs get shorter, the jams are eliminated, and they play two sets instead of three. The music is still okay, but it's never as great as it was at the Academy. And hardly anybody notices. That's what the Leonard-Hagler bout was like: a rock concert at the Garden."

I'm not saying that Leonard and Hagler didn't both make an effort. They did. And I'm not saying they shouldn't have been paid what they were paid. They had it coming, if that's what the market will bear. But it seems a pity that everyone involved with that fight, from the fighters to the fans, couldn't have concentrated on the music a little more.

Maybe, if we all concentrated on the music we wouldn't have to talk at all about the questions I've been discussing. Maybe, finally, merit and ability would have the last word. □

What did Gerry Cooney do to warrant a crack at Michael Spinks' heavyweight crown?

Sugar Ray Robinson staged one of boxing's greatest comebacks when he kayoed Bobo Olson to regain the middleweight title in 1955. Ray is pictured here with wife, Edna Mae, looking over the morning newspapers the day after Sugar's big victory.

RINGS AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

▶**TUSCON—Holiday Inn Ballroom**—Joey "The Kid" Medina didn't deserve the boos he heard as the 10-round majority decision was announced, but many in the swarm that had earlier chanted Medina's name felt "Yellow Rose" Raphe Sims from Texas had earned the nod, instead.

"I've never gotten a hometown decision," said Medina from a battered countenance as he surveyed his swollen hand in the ice bucket. Medina was right, but scrutiny of the hard-fought contest might have made Sims the winner. Instead, the Houston invader fell to 20-3 as Medina rose to 15-3-1.

For the first three rounds, Sims, 133, connected with undamaging, but effective shots as he alone set a rugged tempo. Medina, 130 ¾, seemed willing, or able, to land just a handful of counter smacks. Aware he was losing sizeable ground, Medina came out in the fourth displaying his usual toughness and opened a nick under Sims' right eye. Encouraged, Medina continued to come on in the fifth but was unable to gain any sizeable advantage as Sims resumed his own assault, reddening the outer flesh of Medina's ribcage.

In the seventh, bad luck tagged Medina in exactly the way it had in his last fight when an unintentional butt reopened a forehead cut introduced about six weeks before. The doctor was called to check it before the eighth, but credit Medina for the guts and will he displayed winning at least two of the last three rounds. That rally included a 10th-round knockdown of Sims, which Medina admitted knowing he needed, and the slugfest ended with both men bruised, but brave and still brawling.

It couldn't have been much closer, judge Gerald Maltz scoring it 95-95, while judges Bob Ferrera and Ron Meyer gave it to Medina, 96-95 and 95-94, respectively.

Instead of whining, Sims said, "I didn't do enough to win it in his town." He did on *The Ring's* card, but just by a point, and Medina earned any call he got.

Mariscal Promotions succeeded in putting together an undercard of quality affairs, a rarity which included no dull rounds.

Harold Romero of Las Cruces earned a unanimous, eight-round nod over Armando Dominguez of Phoenix. Romero, 10-7, lasted through heavy early pressure while escalating his assault with precision that looked better with hindsight. Dominguez, 13-2-2, showed talent and heart throughout, probably earning more than he got. Romero weighed 133, Dominguez, 131 ¾.

Albuquerque's Sam Houston, 155, won a majority decison over Zora Folley Jr., the son of the former heavyweight contender. Houston's disciplined attack smashed through Folley's defense and forced Folley to spend most of his energy defending himself. Houston marched him to the ropes, finally gluing him there, where he applied a paste job that had Folley in trouble at the end of the scheduled six. Houston is 9-3-1, Folley, 4-1.

Tucson's Rudy Holguin, 131 ¾, was in command against Gonzalo Ramirez, 130, when he landed a perfect right hand that blasted Ramirez to the mat. Ramirez bounced up from a combination of instinct and impact, but was immediately catching hurt again when ref Ron Meyers stopped the scheduled four-rounder at 2:33 of the third. Holguin is 1-1, Ramirez, who hails from Phoenix, 1-2.

The first round of 165-pound Tucson Ronnie Warren's pro debut went well as he pounded Phoenix' Tommy Clark, 163 ¾. But Clark, whose only previous bout was a loss, made a beautiful comeback. Wildly flinging numerous punches, Clark found Warren early in the second, and Warren conked out as much from exhaustion as from Clark's shots. As he barked little huffs of power that accented the battering, Clark overwhelmed Warren to score a flattening and decisive knockout at 1:59 of the second.

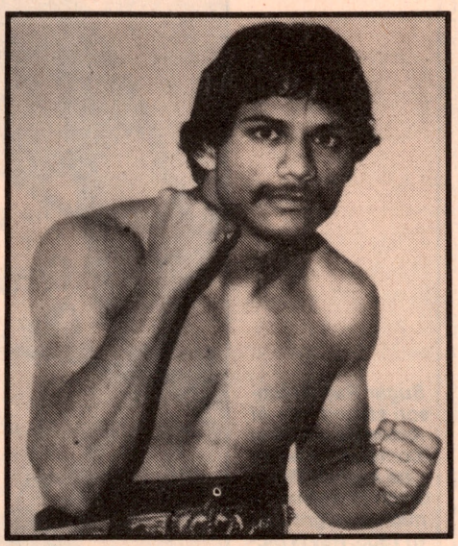
El Paso's Jamie Lopez, 117 ¼, looked more mature from the opening bell as he raised his record to 2-2 by stopping Tucson's Joey Quinlan, 117. Both came to fight, but Lopez was stronger, knocking down Quinlan in the second. The doctor was called in to examine Quinlan's extremely swollen right eye and the bout was allowed to continue, though it became just a matter of proving Quinlan's desire and courage would not be enough. Down again at 1:19 of the third, Quinlan was told by his corner to stay down and he is already enough of a pro at 1-1 to have followed the advice.

In the evening's opener, Tucson's "Great Alaskan Bear" Burt Hughes, 198, evened his record at 1-1 with a TKO of Phoenix' 195-pound Jim Hartwick, who fell to 1-5. The contest was fast-paced for heavyweights, with Hughes lumbering ferociously enough to get the win at 2:43 of the third of the scheduled four. The crowd-pleasing Hughes worked his game opponent's body with bruising regularity, putting him down twice and whacking him around until ref Bob Ferrera applied the skid.

Physician: Dr. Marcos.

Attendance: 650 (est.).

(2-24-87)



Former WBA bantamweight champion Gaby Canizales TKO'd Mike Moreno in Tucson to raise his pro record to 34-3-1 with 23 KOs.

▶**TUSCON—Community Center**—Former WBA bantamweight champion Gaby Canizales scored a three-round TKO over Tuscon's Mike "El Parajito" Moreno in what was billed as an NABF elimination bout.

Though tough Moreno made a futile stand of valor, Canizales looked as he had in destroying Richie Sandoval, and the climax was not in doubt for long.

In the first frame, Canizales probed patiently while Moreno waited for counter opportunities that never came. Early in the second, Canizales opened up, while Moreno used cautious skill in hope of avoiding trouble. Midway through the round, Canizales landed a strong right that jerked Moreno's head, and Canizales became more aggressive, Moreno's defense changing from strategy to crisis intervention technique. Moreno was not landing much, while Canizales connected with hard rights until the bell.

The Texan resumed the assault with the start of Round Three, scoring with hard combinations and catching Moreno in Moreno's own corner. Canizales winged punches with precision brutality, terminating the encounter like a hawk gathering desert fur. An extended flurry dropped Moreno and the bout was properly halted. The time of the stoppage was never clarified, but came midway in the round.

With the thumping of the talented Moreno, Canizales is again at the forefront of 118 pounders. Weighing 118, Canizales notched his 23rd KO in his 34-3-1 record. Moreno, who weighed 119, fell to 22-4-1.

With Moreno's demise, Tuscon hopes rest with popular Joey "The Kid" Medina, the only current local star who deserves a title opportunity. Medina's great recent showings against ranked opposition—split win over Raphe Sims, tough loss to Anthony Fletcher—should earn him a ranking or a shot at a ranking.

Randy Smith, 172½, did what he came from Chicago to do, raising his record to 17-7 as he disappointed local fans and popular Mario Tineo by winning a unanimous, eight-round decision. Smith showboated throughout, but landed effectively against the stalking Tineo, who didn't get untracked until the final round. Tineo, 168¾, dropped to 20-4.

Promising Ray Gastellum continued to stir local hopes, adding a seventh KO to his perfect eight-win record. This time, his progress came at the expense of El Paso's Jose "Kidd" Williams, who fell to 8-5 when stopped in the second round. Gastellum's relentless pressure and frequent slaps wobbled Williams in the first and rocked him out at 1:17 of the second of the scheduled eight. Williams weighed 132, Gastellum, 134¼.

Phoenix' Tim Gallagher, also 8-0, scored a unanimous decision over Tuscon's Derek Cuttino, who fell to 7-9. The pair was a judges' nightmare until the two took turns stunning each other in the third. From that point, Gallagher, 132, scored enough rights to win from the jabbing Cuttino, 134.

Energetic Raul Pineda showed ring knowledge equal to that of seasoned Tony Cisneros, winning a split, six-round decision. Pineda, of Tucson, weighed 128 in improving his record to 4-2. Cisneros, of Phoenix, weighed 125 in dropping to 16-19.

A pair of debuting bantamweights opened the card, braving the knowledge that one would learn pro defeat. El Paso's Jamie Torres, 122, had the better night, dropping Tucson's Rodrigo Gonzales, 117½, at the bell ending the third for a TKO. Gonzales was a Navy and Golden Gloves champ and should be back.

With this show, promoter Gilbert Mariscal took another big step in the revitalization of Arizona boxing. The place was full of pleased fans, showing proof of positive audience support.

Attendance: 1,000 (est.).

(3-31-87)

PHIL WOOLEVER

CALIFORNIA

▶**IRVINE—Marriot Hotel**—Experienced Ramon Marchena, 129, Esendada, used his height and reach effectively to win a 10-round, split decision over California junior lightweight champion Greg Puente, 130½, Alhambra. Marchena (30-5-1) won the early and late rounds and floored the more aggressive Puente (8-2-4) in the third. Scoring: Chuck Hassett 95-94 Marchena; Tony Guiron 96-93 Puente; Eddie Rodriguez 97-94 Marchena. Rudy Jordan, referee.

Undefeated John Clouden, 135, Los Angeles, came from behind to knock out Derrick Hudson, 135, Bakersfield, with a right uppercut at 1:08 of the fourth and final round. Rodriguez, referee.

Rudolfo Perez, 126, Temple City, stopped Francisco Jimenez, 127, Los Angeles, referee Guitron stepping in with just 33 seconds left in the fourth and final round to save Jimenez from unneccessary punishment. Jimenez was down late in the third.

Popular Tony Chicoine, 163, Orange, dominated the opening round, but Hector Jaiman, 163½, San Diego, was in charge when a badly cut right eye forced out Chicoine at 2:36 of the second of a scheduled six. Guitron, referee.

Rod Starks, 155½, Huntington Beach, won a split verdict over Gilbert Baptist, 154, San Diego, in a mauling five-round show closer. Scoring: Jordan 48-47 Starks; Guitron 49-46 Baptist, Hassett 49-46 Starks. Rodriguez, referee.

Physician: Dr. Michael DeLuca.

Timekeeper: Aaron Koslow.

Announcer: Danny Valdivia.

Matchmaker: John Cabrera.

Promoter: Don Fraser.

(2-23-87)

▶**INGLEWOOD—The Forum**—Hector Lopez, 125, Glendale, unanimously outpointed defending champion Refugio Rojas, 126, Los Angeles, in a Forum featherweight tournament elimination. Lopez (12-1) cleverly used superior quickness to win decisively. Rojas (39-12) was cut over the left eye in the sixth. Scoring: Robert Byrd 98-92; Pat Russell 98-94; Dick Young 97-93. Lou Moret, referee.

Lenny Valdez, 125¾, Mexicali, won a very close, upset split decision over world-rated Richard Savage, 126, West Monroe, in another first-round featherweight bout. Raul Caiz and Moret had Valdez winning the 10-round fight 97-95 and 96-94, respectively, while Young scored it 98-91 in favor of Savage (26-2), but both fighters were unimpressive. Russell, referee.

Ramzi Hassan, 175, Campo, won a unanimous decision over Jeff Lampkin, 175, Youngstown, to advance to the finals of the Forum light heavyweight tournament. Lampkin (28-10-1) had the

ability to win, but he was clearly frustrated by the awkward and busy style of Hassan (22-2). Scoring: Young 98-92; Moret 97-93; Caiz 97-95. Byrd, referee.

Last-minute substitute Vicente Gonzales, 128 Los Angeles, floored and stopped William Radcliffe, 129, Los Angeles, in 2:34 of the second of a scheduled four-round war. Gonzales (2-1-1) quickly became a crowd favorite and the fans showered the ring with coins after referee Gwen Adair rescued debuting Radcliffe.

Quincy Hinnant, 153½, Inglewood, shut out Alvin Arnold, 152, Los Angeles, four. Hinnant dominated, flooring Arnold in the second and in the third. Adair, referee.

Andre Smith, 128, Los Angeles, bombed his way to his eighth consecutive pro win as he knocked out Pedro Nolasco, 130, Bell, in 1:56 of the third of an exciting scheduled six. Smith was down from a left hook but came back to floor the previously unbeaten Nolasco with a right hand. Moret, referee.

Debuting Roberto Rosiles, 158, Blythe, flattened Caleb Ramos, 158¼, Oxnard, in 2:18 of the third of a scheduled four. This prelim was also punishing with both fighters badly hurt before Rosiles sent Ramos (0-2) down and out with a right hand. Adair, referee.

Physician: Dr. Robert Bitonte.
Timekeeper: Ernie Snow.
Announcer: Jimmy Lennon Jr.
Matchmaker: Antonio Curtis.
Promoter: Jerry Buss.

(2-23-87)

▶**RESEDA—The Country Club**—Jesus Poll, 126, Los Angeles, unanimously outscored Daniel Garcia, 126, East Los Angeles, over eight fast-paced rounds. Garcia (6-3-1) never stopped trying, but Venezuelan amateur star Poll (8-0-1) always had the edge. Scoring: John Thomas 80-73; Pa Connolly 79-74; Kenny Davis 79-74. Lou Filippo. referee.

Amateur champion Alex Garcia, 218, San Fernando, floored journeyman Richard Harrell, 193, Anaheim, in the third and won unanimously in four, all three judges scoring 39-36. Thomas, referee.

Robert Lewis, 133, Los Angeles, notched his third win over Oscar Ornelas, 134, East Los Angeles, with a hard-fought, six-round majority decision. Lewis (5-2-3) and Ornelas (1-3-2) have also fought to two draws. Scoring: Davis 57-57; Filippo 59-56; Thomas 60-55. Connolly, referee.

Dino Garza, 126, Granada Hills, impressively knocked out Ruben Maldonado, 126, Los Angeles, with a left to the body in 2:59 of the second of a scheduled four. Thomas, referee.

Unbeaten prospect Engels Pedroza, 142, Long Beach, dropped Tony Burroughs, 146, Los Angeles, twice before referee Davis stepped in after just 2:14 of the first of a scheduled four.

Indonesian newcomer Francisco Lisboa, 155, Los Angeles, stopped debuting Michael Johnson, 150½, Compton, who turned his back in 2:47 of the second of a scheduled four. Davis, referee.

Physician: Dr. Robert Karns.
Timekeeper: Aaron Koslow.
Announcer: Jimmy Lennon.
Matchmaker: Larry Goossen.
Promoters: Daniel Goossen, Victor French.

▶**SAN DIEGO—El Cortez Hotel**—Fast-rising heavyweight Orlin Norris, 205, Campo, kayoed Mike Gans, 250, Long Beach, who was counted out by referee Fritz Werner in 2:51 of the seventh of a scheduled 10. Norris (9-1) had to work to win every round, and it was a left-right combination that flattened the once-promising Gans (10-4)

Terry Norris, 149, Campo, knocked out Dick Green, 149½, San Diego, with a left hook to the body at 53 seconds of the first of a scheduled six. Orlin's younger brother is unbeaten in eight starts. Frank Rustich, referee.

Fernando Ambriz, 118, San Diego, scored two knockdowns and won unanimously over Hilario Aguilar, 123, Solano Beach, four. Werner, referee.

Debuting Jose Orantez, 137, San Diego, TKO'd Juan Torres, 135½, San Diego, in 2:00 of the second of a scheduled four. A cut right eye caused the stoppage, but Torres had been down earlier in the round. Rustich, referee.

Joaquin Martinez, 156¾, San Diego, won the first round of his first professional fight, but veteran David Guerra, 153, San Diego, won the next three and a four-round, unanimous decision. Rustich, referee.

Physician: Dr. William Lundeen.
Timekeeper: Mike Millsap.
Announcer: Fred Lewis.
Matchmaker: Ernie Fuentes.
Promoter: Lillian DePhilippis.

(2-26-87)

▶**LONG BEACH—Spruce Goose Dome**—Dee Collier, 220, Los Angeles, retained his California heavyweight championship by stopping top contender Mark Wills, 216, Van Nuys, at 35 seconds of the seventh of a scheduled 12. Referee Pat Connolly jumped in after Wills had been stunned by two vicious combinations, but it appeared that Wills (8-7-1) deserved an opportunity to continue. Wills was clearly ahead on points. Collier (10-6) had outpointed Wills one year earlier to win the state title.

Mike White, 290½, Long Beach, halted Dwain Bonds, 235, Detroit, at 44 seconds of the sixth of a scheduled eight. The seven-foot White (17-7-1) used his reach and bulk to wear down the less-than-ambitious Bonds (11-11-1). Raul Caiz, referee.

Rocky Cazares, 132, Blythe, knocked out Ernesto Mota, 136, Los Angeles, with a wild left hook at 2:10 of the first of a scheduled six. Lou Moret, referee.

Unbeaten Rudolfo Perez, 125½, Temple City, was a clear, unanimous winner over Sal Salazar, 124, Blythe, four. Salazar won only the last round. Lou Filippo, referee.

Robert Rosiles, 159, Blythe, impressively floored and stopped debuting ticket-seller Kelly Green, 162, Torrance, in 2:25 of the second of a scheduled four. Referee Filippo did not bother to count.

Knockdowns in the first and third rounds gave Efren Chavez, 118, South El Monte, a hard-fought, unanimous victory over previously unbeaten Ruben Bajo, 118, East Los Angeles, four. Moret, referee.

Physician: Dr. Michael Deluca.
Timekeeper: Phil Carreon.
Announcer: Danny Valdivia.
Matchmaker: John Cabrera.
Promoter: Don Fraser.

(3-9-87)

▶**INGLEWOOD—The Forum**-Alberto Mercado, 126, Cayey, Puerto Rico, controversially halted California State Champion Irving Mitchell, 124½, San Diego, in 1:18 of the third of a first-round Featherweight Tournament bout. Mercado (27-5-1) sent Mitchell (29-5) sprawling with a right hand in the third. Referee Rudy Jordan let the fight continue, then stepped in seconds later when Mercado threw the still wobbly Mitchell to the canvas.

Tyrone Downes, 126, Port of Spain, Trinidad, scored a good win when he unanimously outpointed Roger Arevalo, 126, Merida, Mexico, in a 10-round tournament eliminator. Downes (26-5) was floored in the second and was hurt briefly in the 10th, but he dominated every other round. Arevalo (25-3-2) lost a point for a low blow in the second. Scoring: Dr. James Jen-Kin 98-91; Jordan 97-92; Dick Young 97-91. Lou Moret, referee.

Touted George Navarro, 125, Vineland, New Jersey, also advanced to the featherweight quarterfinals, but he struggled to unanimously outscore southpaw Vincent Christian, 126, Philadelphia, over 10 dull rounds. Navarro (15-1) found it difficult to reach the much taller Christian and was wobbled badly in the seventh. Frequent holding by Christian (13-2-1) correctly counted against him on the scorecards of judges Jordan (97-93), Moret (99-91) and Young (97-92). Jen-Kin referee.

Lorenzo Guzman, 151, Las Vegas, unexpectedly shelled Ernest "Peanut" Curtis, 151, Los Angeles, in 2:59 of the first of a scheduled eight. Curtis (13-3) was sent through the ropes and then flattened by left hooks. Gwen Adair, referee.

Evelio Perez, 132, Anaheim, pulled out a very close, four-round split win over Lamart Baker, 132, Las Vegas. Scoring: Adair 39-37. Raul Caiz, referee.

Unbeaten Terry Norris, 154, Campo, sensationally knocked out Tino Leon, 161, Visalia, with a straight right to the chin in 2:45 of the first of a scheduled four. Caiz, referee.

Lawrence Caver, 138¼, Los Angeles, used his experience to win a hard-fought, four-round majority decision over Joe Orantez, 138, San Diego. Scoring: Jen-Kin 38-38; Adair 39-37; Jordan 39-37. Caiz, referee.

Abdullah Tabezi, 159, North Hollywood, did just enough in every round to win a clear, unanimous verdict over Jose Luis Cordova, 156, Hanford, in the four-round opener. Adair, referee.

Physicians: Dr. Bernhart Schwartz, Dr. Michael Deluca.
Timekeeper: Aaron Koslow.
Announcer: Jimmy Lennon Jr.
Matchmaker: Antonio Curtis.
Promoter: Jerry Buss.

(3-16-87)

▶**RIVERSIDE—Raincross Square**—Alphonso Long, 144½, Compton, definitely won most of the rounds, but David Gutierrez, 144, San Diego, escaped with his 17-bout unbeaten record still intact when he was gifted with a blatantly partisan 10-round draw. San Diego officials Fritz Werner, Danny Millsap and Hal Rickards scored the fight 96-95 Gutierrez, 95-95 and 96-96, respectively.

The slick, shifty Long is 18-6-1. Frank Rustich, referee.

John Smith, 180, San Bernardino, unanimously outpointed Tim Jones, 176½, Sacramento, six. Jones threw very few punches. Werner, referee.

Louis Herandez, 124½, Redlands, battled hard to win a split decision over Hector Lizarraga, 125, Fresno, in a very entertaining six. Scoring: Werner 59-56 Hernandez; Rickards 58-57 Lizarraga; Millsap 58-56 Hernandez Tony Guitron, referee.

Flurries of punches from Celio Olivar, 146, Colton, badly gashed David Guerra, 142, San Diego, who retired in his corner at the end of the first of a scheduled four. Werner, referee.

Alvin Arnold, 153, Los Angeles, floored debuting Lawrence Farmer, 153, Los Angeles, twice in the first and won unanimously over four. Guitron, referee.

Physician: Dr. Michael Deluca.
Timekeeper: Mike Millsap.
Matchmaker: Ernie Funetes.
Promoter: Bill Nasto.

(3-19-87)

▶**IRVINE—Marriott Hotel**—Former WBC Bantamweight Champion Albert Davilla, 119, Pomona, efficiently outboxed Edel Geronimo, 118, Manila, winning unanimously over 10 spirited rounds. Davila (53-8-1) was cut over the right eye in the third. Scoring: Chuck Hassett 99-91; Lou Moret 99-91; Tony Guitron 98-92. Vince Delgado, referee.

Rocky Cazares, 133, Blythe, unanimously outslugged Geraldo Nava, 132, Anaheim, in a very hard six which drew a shower of money. Cazares (13-2-1) lost a point for a low blow in the third. Scoring: Hassett 57-55; Delgado 58-55; Guitron 58-55. Moret, referee.

Larry Musgrove, 162, Los Angeles, kayoed bloody Hector Jaiman, 160, San Diego, who was counted out by referee Moret in 1:58 of the fourth of a scheduled six-round war.

Rod Starks, 155, Huntington Beach, won a clear, but split decision over heavy Richard Demarco, 160, Newport Beach. Scoring: Hassett 49-46 Starks; Moret 49-46 Starks; Guitron 48-47 Demarco. Delgado, referee.

Collin Crews, 175, Los Angeles, TKO'd poor Frank Charles, 176, Pasadena, on a cut left eye in 2:33 of the third of a scheduled four. Guitron, referee.

Victor Flores, 120, Lennox, unanimously outpointed Norberto Ayala, 119, Anaheim, four, all three officials scoring 39-37. Guitron, referee.

Physician: Dr. Michael Deluca.
Announcer: Danny Valdivia.
Promoter: Don Fraser.
Timekeeper: Phil Carreon.
Matchmaker: John Cabrera.

(3-23-87)

▶**LOS ANGELES—The Olympic**—Mauricio Aceves, 134, Mexico City, was too strong for Mark Fernandez, 131½, Detroit, who was kayoed in 1:50 of the fifth of a scheduled 10. Aceves (23-4) floored Hernandez (18-3-1) four times. Lou Filippo, referee.

Octavio Robles, 146, Mexico City, knocked out Joel Soto, 147, Michoacan, in 2:20 of the third of a scheduled 10. Soto was down twice. John Thomas, referee.

Unbeaten Felipe Fuentes, 138¾, Mexico City, unanimously outpointed trier Cesar Zepeda, 138¾, Los Angeles, eight. Zepeda was floored in the third and never in the fight. Robert Byrd, referee.

Terry Norris, 151½, Campo, floored Mauro Veronica, 155, Los Angeles, twice with right hands and won by KO in 2:36 of the second of a scheduled six. Vince Delgado, referee.

Manuel Davila, 139¾, Los Angeles, kayoed veteran Richardo Domeli, 139, Tijuana, who was counted out by referee Thomas in 2:20 of the second of a scheduled four.

Physician: Dr. Bernhart Schwartz.
Timekeeper: Ernie Snow.
Announcer: Jimmy Lennon Jr.
Matchmaker: Obdulio Munoz.
Promoter: Rogelio Robles.

(3-26-87)

▶**SAN DIEGO—El Cortez Hotel**—Tony Deluca, 111, San Diego, scored his career-best victory when he won an eight-round, split decision over previously unbeaten Mexican prospect Jose Quirino, 112, Tijuana. Quirino (16-1) was the better boxer and sharper puncher, but he was outhustled by the popular Deluca (9-1-2). Scoring: Kenny Davis 77-75 Deluca; Tony Guitron 78-74 Deluca; Pat Russell 78-75 Quirino. Raul Caiz, referee.

Eric McNair, 150½, San Diego, won a disputed, six-round split verdict over Carlton Brooks, 152, Los Angeles. Brooks (5-1) was floored for nine early in the third, but rallied to punch-push McNair (4-3) to the canvas later in the round. Scoring: Russell 58-57 Brooks; Guitron 58-57 McNair; Davis 58-56 McNair. Fritz Werner, referee.

Tony Crawford, 211, San Diego, TKO'd inept Perry Howerton, 230, Los Angeles, at 42 seconds of the second of a scheduled four. It didn't take much effort for Crawford to floor Howerton three times. Russell, referee.

Joaquin Martinez, 158, San Ysidro, edged Micke Falcon, 154, La Mesa, on a split decision, four. Scoring: Russell 39-37 Falcon; Werner and Davis 39-37 Martinez. Guitron, referee.

Rudolfo Perez, 126, Temple City, won a majority decision over Martin Juarez, 125½, San Diego, in a four-round slugfest. Scoring: Werner 38-38; Guitron and Russell 39-37 Perez. Davis, referee.

Alvin Arnold, 153½, Los Angeles, TKO'd Lawrence Farmer, 152, Los Angeles, referee Davis intervening when the apprehensive Farmer stopped fighting back at 1:52 of the third of a scheduled four.

Physician: Dr. William Lundeen.
Timekeeper: Mike Millsap.
Announcer: Fred Lewis.
Matchmaker: Erick Bonilla.
Promoter: Lillian Dephilipps.

(3-26-87)

▶**RESEDA—The Country Club**—Alex Ramos, 162, Downey, flattened Ron Daniels, 161, Paso Robles, with a right at 57 seconds of the third of a scheduled 10. Referee Robert Byrd didn't bother to count. Ramos (26-5-2) also floored Daniels (10-4) with a right in the first.

Determined Lamart Baker, 141, Las Vegas, ended a seven-fight losing run when he won an upset, six-round split decision over Robert Lewis, 134, Los Angeles. The wildly aggressive Lewis (5-3-3) had been down twice and was ready to fall again when a desperation right dropped Baker (6-11) in the second. Baker, who was fined for coming in eight pounds overweight, faded in the next three rounds before rallying in the sixth. Scoring: Larry Rozadilla 57-57; Dick Young 58-55; Byrd 57-57. Rudy Jordan, referee.

Indonesian Francisco Lisboa, 161, Los Angeles, won every round over inexperienced Roberto Rosiles, 158½, Blythe, four. Jordan, referee.

Debuting Nate Houser, 175, Long Beach kayoed easy to hit Collin Crews, 175, Los Angeles, in 2:32 of the first of a scheduled four. Crews was floored twice. Jordan, referee.

Unbeaten Dino Garza, 128, Granada Hills, impressively halted brave Gene Salazar, 128, Bakersfield, in 2:14 of the fourth and final round. Salazar (2-5) takes too much punishment for his own good. Rozadilla, referee.

Abe Gomez, 126, Arleta, was matched with a strong opponent in his four-round pro debut, but his combination punching carried him to a clear unanimous victory over Octavio Guardado, 130, East Los Angeles. Rozadilla, referee.

Physician: Dr. Robert Karns, Dr. Bernahart Schwartz.
Timekeeper: Aaron Koslow.
Announcer: Jimmy Lennon Jr.
Matchmaker: Eric Bonilla.
Promoter: Victor French.

(3-31-87)

▶**LONG BEACH—Spruce Goose Dome**—Derrick Kelly, 152, Inglewood, returned from 18 months inactivity to win the California super welterweight title on a 12-round, unanimous decision over defending champion Tomas Perez, 153¾, Santa Ana. Slick boxer Kelly (15-1-1) had outclassed Perez (15-3) in a welterweight bout September 27, 1984, but the aggressive Perez was much more competitive at the higher poundage. Scoring: Dr. James Jen-Kin 118-110; Chuck Hassett and Lou Filippo 116-112. Lou Moret, referee.

Jim Ashard, 208, Eugene, outlasted Dave Yonko, 232, Long Beach, who retired in his corner, a victim of exhaustion, at the end of the third of a scheduled eight. A disappointing effort by Yonko (6-4), an easy points winner over Ashard (11-5-1) one year earlier. Jen-Kin, referee.

Kenny Wyatt, 132, Los Angeles, won a clear unanimous verdict over Evelio Perez, 132, Anaheim, six. Wyatt (7-1-1) floored Perez

UNITED STATES RATINGS
BY THE UNITED STATES BOXING ASSOCIATION
(As of April, 1987)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Tony Tucker
1. James Douglas (Ohio)
2. Carl Williams (New York)
3. James Broad (New Jersey)
4. Tyrell Biggs (Pennsylvania)
5. Tony Tubbs (Ohio)
6. Michael Spinks (New Jersey)
7. James Smith (North Carolina)
8. Tim Witherspoon (Pennsylvania)
9. Gerry Cooney (New York)
10. Greg Page (Kentucky)
11. Mike Williams (Texas)
12. Elijah Tillery (New York)
13. Larry Alexander (New York)
14. Mike Evans (Illinois)
15. Phil Brown (New York)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Dwight Muhammad Qawi (New Jersey)
2. Bert Cooper (Pennsylvania)
3. Lee Roy Murphy (Illinois)
3. Dwight M. Qawi (New Jersey)
4. Anthony Witherspoon (Pa.)
5. Bernard Benton (Michigan)
6. Dorcey Gaymon (Florida)
7. Boone Pultz (Virginia)
8. Alfonzo Ratliff (Illinois)
9. Bashiru Ali (California)
10. Sherman Griffin (Texas)
11. Henry Tillman (California)
12. Osvaldo Ocasio (Puerto Rico)
13. Michael Greer (Tennessee)
14. Anthony Davis (Nevada)
15. James Waring (Florida)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Charles Williams (Michigan)
1. Jim McDonald (Michigan)
2. Ramzi Ibraham (California)
3. Willie Edwards (Michigan)
4. Virgil Hill (North Dakota)
5. Jeff Lampkin (Ohio)
6. Uriah Grant (Florida)
7. Eddie Davis (New York)
8. Eddie Mustafa Muhammad (New York)
9. David Sears (New York)
10. Kevin Kelly (Pennsylvania)
11. Jessie Shelby (Texas)
12. J.B. Williamson (California)
13. Frankie Swindel (Tennessee)
14. Frank Minton (Indiana)
15. Joe Golphin (Florida)

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Lindell Holmes (Ohio)
1. Mustafa Hamsho (New Jersey)
2. Vincent Boulware (Texas)
3. Nicky Walker (Nevada)
4. Sanderline Williams (Ohio)
5. Chuck Walker (Texas)
6. Marvin Mack (Pennsylvania)
7. Chris Reid (New Jersey)
8. Lenny LaPaglia (Illinois)
9. Lamont Kirkland (California)
10. Everett Martin (Texas)
11. Vinnie Curto (Florida)
12. Jay Strickland (Texas)
13. Stacey McSwain (North Carolina)
14. Mark Holmes (Pennsylvania)
15. Gilberto Colon (Puerto Rico)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Thomas Hearns (Michigan)
2. Marvin Hagler (Massachusetts)
3. Iran Barkley (New York)
4. Frank Tate (Texas)
5. Michael Nunn (California)
6. Troy Darrell (New York)
7. Darnell Knox (Michigan)
8. Tony Thornton (New Jersey)
9. Mark McPherson (New York)
10. James Kinchen (California)
11. Robbie Sims (Massachusetts)
12. Kenny Snow (Texas)
13. Tim Williams (California)
14. Jose Quinones (Puerto Rico)
15. Charley Boston (New Jersey)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Donald Curry (Texas)
1. Lupe Aquino (California)
2. Milton McCrory (Michigan)
3. Mark Medal (New York)
4. John Jackson (Pennsylvania)
5. Kenny Styles (New York)
6. Carlos Santos (Puerto Rico)
7. Davey Moore (New York)
8. Steve Little (Pennsylvania)
9. Robert Hines (Pennsylvania)
10. Mardo Roybal (California)
11. Tony Montgomery (Michigan)
12. Willie Harris (Pennsylvania)
13. Jack Callahan (Indiana)
14. Matthew Farrago (New York)
15. Fred Hutchings (California)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Marlon Starling (Connecticut)
2. Tommy Ayers (Ohio)
3. Maurice Blocker (D.C.)
4. Simon Brown (D.C.)
5. Tyrone Trice (Michigan)
6. Horace Shufford (Nevada)
7. Vincent Pettway (Maryland)
8. Roman George (Louisiana)
9. Luis Santana (California)
10. Manning Galloway (Ohio)
11. Mauricio Rodriguez (Florida)
12. Ricky Stoner (Texas)
13. Alex Medal (Florida)
14. Hugh Kearny (Pennsylvania)
15. Al Long (California)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Frankie Warren (Texas)
1. Buddy McGirt (New York)
2. Joe Manley (New Jersey)
3. Harold Brazier (Indiana)
4. Gary Hinton (Pennsylvania)
5. John Meekins (New York)
6. Andy Nance (California)
7. Howard Davis (New York)
8. Gene Hatcher (Texas)
9. Ronnie Shields (Texas)
10. Vincent Releford (Texas)
11. Othel Dixon (Texas)
12. Ricky Young (New York)
13. Lonnie Smith (Colorado)
14. Cassius Horn (Arizona)
15. Howard Steward (New Jersey)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Terrence Alli (New York)
1. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
2. Jimmy Paul (Michigan)
3. Frankie Randall (Tennessee)
4. Darryl Tyson (DC)
5. Pernell Whitaker (Virginia)
6. Meldrick Taylor (Pennsylvania)
7. Vinny Pazienza (Rhode Island)
8. Irleis Perez (California)
9. Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)
10. Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)
11. Livingstone Bramble (New Jersey)
12. Yogi Buchanan (Missouri)
13. Fred Pendleton (New Jersey)
14. Tim Burgess (New York)
15. Walter Sims (California)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Kenny Baysmore (D.C.)
1. Johnny de la Rosa (Michigan)
2. Rocky Lockridge (New Jersey)
3. John Duplessis (Louisiana)
4. Tony Lopez (California)
5. Genaro Fernandez (California)
6. Dennis Cruz (New York)
7. Harold Knight (New Jersey)
8. Juan LaPorte (New York)
9. Mark Fernandez (Colorado)
10. Joe Rivera (Puerto Rico)
11. Sal Cenicola (New Jersey)
12. Dwight Pratchett (Indiana)
13. Jackie Beard (Indiana)
14. Marino Ramirez (New Jersey)
15. Keely Thompson (Virginia)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Calvin Grove (Pennsylvania)
1. Bernard Taylor (Tennessee)
2. Lupe Suarez (Texas)
3. Steve Cruz (Texas)
4. Alberto Mercado (Puerto Rico)
5. George Navarro (New Jersey)
6. Wilfredo Vasquez (Puerto Rico)
7. Irving Mitchell (California)
8. Billy White (Louisiana)
9. Julian Solis (Puerto Rico)
10. Pascual Aranda (Texas)
11. Richard Savage (Louisiana)
12. Atilano Quinones (Puerto Rico)
13. Paulie Ayala (Texas)
14. Joe Ruelas (California)
15. Hector Lopez (California)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Greg Richardson (Ohio)
1. Darrell Thigpen (U.S.)
2. Jessie Benevides (Texas)
3. Jorge Diaz (California)
4. Manuel Miranda (Puerto Rico)
5. James Pipps (Texas)
6. Jaime Garza (California)
7. George Garcia (California)
8. Aaron Lopez (Texas)
9. Juna Meza (California)
10. Harold Petty (Texas)
11. Robert Shannon (Washington)
12. Juan Veloz (New York)
13. Pedro Adames (Texas)
14. Sonny Long (Ohio)
15. Diego Rosario (New Jersey)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Kelvin Seabrooks (California)
1. Jose Sanabria (New York)
2. Luis Curtis (D.C.)
3. Gaby Canizales (Texas)
4. Jimmy Navarro (Florida)
5. Jesus Salud (Hawaii)
6. Hurley Snead (Michigan)
7. Alfred Rangel (Texas)
8. Frankie Duarte (California)
9. Bebis Rojas (Florida)
10. Alberto Davila (California)
11. Mike Phelps (Texas)
12. David Gauvin (Massachusetts)
13. Eddie Rangel (Texas)
14. Gilbert Contreras (Texas)
15. Jose Gallegos (Texas)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Ramon Medal (Texas)
1. Paul Gonzales (California)
2. Jose DeJesus (Puerto Rico)
3. Jorge Ortiz (Puerto Rico)
4. Angel Rosario (Puerto Rico)
5. Rafael Caban (Puerto Rico)
6. William Ramos (Puerto Rico)
7. Lucilo Nolasco (California)
8. Mario Savala (California)
9. Kenny Mitchell (New York)
10. Alonzo Gonzalez (California)
11. Felix Marquez (Connecticut)
12. Orlando Canizales (Texas)
13. Miguel Mercedes (California)
14. Felix Castillo (Texas)
15. Pedro Feliciano (Puerto Rico)

(6-2-4) in the first. Jin-Kin, referee.

Bruce Pearson, 132, Los Angeles, made it six out of eight (one draw) with a four-round, unanimous decision over Miguel Miranda, 141, Los Angeles. Miranda (2-6) was down in the first. Filippo, referee.

Daryl Colquitt, 145, Los Angeles, held on to unanimously outpoint Japanese oldtimer Fumizo Kuraoaka, 145, Huntington Beach, four. Filippo, referee.

Physician: Dr. Michael Deluca.
Timekeeper: Phil Carreon.
Announcer: Danny Valdivia.
Matchmaker: John Cabrera.
Promoter: Don Fraser.
(4-8-87)

▶**INGLEWOOD—The Forum**—Ramzi Hassan, 175, Campo, outboxed and outslugged dangerous Uriah Grant, 175, Miami, in winning a unanimous, 12-round decision to take The Forum light heavyweight championship. Hassan (22-2) boxed magnificently and although Grant (14-3) never went down, he was in serious trouble in rounds five, seven and 12. Scoring: Lou Moret 117-108; Raul Caiz 118-111; Dr. James Jen-Kin 120-106. Larry Rozadilla, referee.

Former WBC superbantamweight champion Jaime Garza, 126, Alhambra, struggled to unanimously outpoint 130-pound title challenger Dwight Pratchett, 126, Houston, in a 10-round Forum Featherweight Tournament elimination. Garza's clear margin on all three judges' scorecards was angrily disputed by the handlers of Pratchett (16-9). Garza (45-2 with 42 knockouts) could never put his man down and, although he outworked Pratchett, he was hit much too often and easily. Scoring: Moret 99-91; Vince Delgado 97-94; Chuck Hassett 97-94. Jen-Kin, referee.

Garza's second-round opponent will be Joe Ruelas, 125½, Santa Ana, who clobbered former WBA bantamweight champion Julian Solis, 123½, San Juan, in three exciting rounds. Both fighters were badly hurt and floored in the second. But Ruelas (20-3) was too hard a hitter for Solis (35-5-1) and referee Moret stopped the bout after three more knockdowns in 1:53 of the third of a scheduled 10.

Unbeaten John Clouden, 133, Los Angeles, had no trouble unanimously beating Juan Salas, 135, Highland Park, four. Salas was floored in the second and third. Caiz, referee.

Unbeaten Andrew Meza, 122, South El Monte, and once-beaten Victor Flores, 124, Lennox, drew in a good four. Scoring: Hassett 40-36 Meza; Delgado and Jen-Kin 38-38. Caiz, referee.

Prospect Calvin Meeks, 141½, Los Angeles, took his unbeaten record to two with a two-knockdown stoppage over debuting Andrew Revis, 140, Redondo Beach, at 26 seconds of the second of a scheduled four. Delgado, referee.

Quincy Hinnant, 153, Inglewood, won a clear unanimous, four-round decision over Robert Jackson, 160, Los Angeles. Delgado, referee.

Physicians: Dr. Bernhart Schwartz, Dr. Michael Deluca.
Timekeeper: Aaron Koslow.
Announcer: Jimmy Lennon Jr.
Matchmaker: Antonio Curtis.
Promoter: Jerry Buss.
(4-9-87)

DEAN LOHUIS

COLORADO

▶**DENVER—St. Joseph's Gymnasium**—Crosstown rivals Tony Duran, 126, and Vidal Padilla, 127, engaged in a furious battle which had the crowd on its feet throughout the second half of this eight-round feature won by Duran.

Duran attacked from the onset, hooking and crossing, but Padilla was an able counterpuncher often turning the action to his favor.

Both fighters were hurt, and Padilla had his man down in the seventh round. But it was Duran who walked away with the roses, winning, 78-77, 77-74 and 78-74, to improve to 7-0 as Padilla fell to 6-3.

Denver's Benjie Vigil, 132, upped his log to 8-0 with an easy KO over substitute John Determan of Lincoln. Tough, but talentless, the 131-pound Determan was down in the first and counted out at 49 seconds of the second. The bout was scheduled for eight.

In a scheduled four, Aurora's Bruce Flippins had a similar easy go over Jay James of Lincoln. James was doubled over with a body blow at 1:36 of the second and was either unable or unwilling to continue. Each weighed 127.

Denver's Manual Valdez, 157, won a rough and tumble unanimous verdict over Colorado Springs' Alex Rios, 160, in an action four.

Lincoln's Billy Thomas, 130, fainted before Aurora's Dave Santos, 132, at 2:52 of the first of a scheduled four.

Denver featherweights Vinnie Ponzio and Leo Rodriguez drew in an action-packed four-rounder.

Attendance: 500 (est.).
Judges: Bill Yeoman, Doug Brott and Lou Rebrino.
Referee: Paul Barcelona.
Timekeeper: Ed Quinn.
Physician: Dr. Rory Chetlat.
Promoter: Quinn Promotions.
(3-28-87)

ED WALSH

FLORIDA

▶**MIAMI—Calle Ocho**—A fight promoted by Walter Alvarez Promotions, viewed by one million, the matches taking place in the street and free to everyone.

The main event was scheduled for eight rounds, but ended in the third when Steve Larrimore halted Jaime Polo, the time of the stoppage being 1:55.

Larrimore, of Nassau, weighed 136, with Polo, of Miami, coming in at 131.

In a scheduled six, Miami Beach's Manuel Murrillo, 174, floored Miami's David Butler, 177, with a terrific right to the jaw and referee Juan Arias counted out Butler in just 41 seconds.

Miami's Freddy Sevilla, 128½, was a winner by TKO in the fourth and final round over Hallendale's Daryl Pinckney, 127, referee Harry Brennan stopping the bout.

Miami's William Ruiz, 145, scored a unanimous four-round decision over Key West's John Zavala, 149.

A four-round, majority decision went to Miami's Carlos Curet, 139, over Miami Beach's Heriberto Torres, 138.

Jose Guzman of Hialeah flattened Homestead's William Santos at 2:05 of the second round. Each weighed 130.

Wayne Peterson, 134¼, won a unanimous, four-round decision over Leroy Lucero, 137¼. Each hails from Miami.

(3-15-87)

LOUIS ZIPKIN

ILLINOIS

▶**CHICAGO—Bismarck Pavilion**—A capacity crowd filled this locale for the Chicago cruiserweight showdown between former WBC champ Alfonzo Ratliff and Craig "Gator" Bodzianowski.

Bodzianowski, 195, had won four fights since a motorcycle accident three years ago left him with an artificial right foot. Those wins improved Bodzianowski's record to 17-0, but Ratliff presented his toughest test. For $10,000, Ratliff, coming off a two-round knockout loss to Mike Tyson, had almost everything to lose.

Ratliff, with flashy green, red and black trunks, won the fashion contest, the center ring stare down and continued on his roll late in the first round as he sent Bodzianowski down for a canvas sandwich. Bodzianowski's head banged hard off the mat, but he wobbled to his feet and seemed to benefit from referee Nate Morgan's extra careful inspection. It was the first time he's ever been knocked down, but it was going to take more than that to swamp the "Gator."

Using his height and reach advantage, Ratliff exploited Bodzianowski's balance problem and defensive deficiencies, but failed to press his advantage in the early rounds, allowing Bodzianowski and the pro "Gator" crowd back into the fight. Bodzianowski started outhustling his opponent, who spent too much time looking for the home run right hand.

Bodzianowski, who has never met a backward step he liked, continued to wade in through the middle rounds, landing roundhouse hooks and right hands. Ratliff neglected his jab and was cut under the right eye in Round Five, but continued to hammer through Bodzianowski's leaky defense. Rather than discourage Bodzianowski, Ratliff's assaults seemed to inspire him. Late in the sixth, Bodzianowski staggered Ratliff, now cut above his left eye, with a left hook.

"Gator" started raising his arms at the end of every round, signaling his fans that an upset was in the making. The pace was brutal, featuring infighting and offense. Bodzianowski went down again early in Round Nine, but got up quickly and managed to last out a rough round.

Bodzianowski went down for the third time early in the 10th, but that was Ratliff's sole moment of glory in the final round as he spent the rest of the fight running from Bodzianowski, trying to protect his bloody mask of a face.

The knockdowns made the difference as judge Bill Lerch scored 46-43, judge Jerry Jakubco carded 47-42 and judge Tim Adams saw it 46-45, all for Ratliff. *The Ring* had it 45-43, Ratliff.

It was a courageous effort on Bodzianowski's part, coming off the deck in Round One to trade nine more rounds worth of blows. Ratliff, 22-4, always a tough competitor, looks toward regaining his title.

Wilmington, North Carolina's Fred Whitaker, 239, stopped Chicago's Al "Chico" Evans, 212, at 2:09 of the second round in a scheduled six.

Chicago's William McDonald, 160, TKO'd Milwaukee's Anthony Jackson, 152, at 2:28 of the third of a scheduled four-rounder.

A match between Chicago residents had Tim Martin, 174, stop Roy Alexander, 179, at 1:47 of the first in a scheduled four-round duel of debutants.

Bobby Hitz of Addison TKO'd Larry Roberson of Joliet in the first of a bout that precipitated a brawl that was better than the fight. Hitz weighed 207, Roberson 202.

Chicago's Nate Rush won a four-round, unanimous decision over Milwaukee's Richard Campbell. Each weighed 131.

Chicago's Bernard Hightower, 172, took a six-round, unanimous decision over the venerable John Cox, 179½, of Rockford.

Promoter: Cedric Kushner.
Matchmaker: Jack Cowen.
Attendance: 2,800 (est.).

(4-12-87)

JEFF CARLSON

▶**CHICAGO—DaVinci Manor**—Illinois state lightweight champion Louie Lomeli scored a first-round TKO of Sebastian Wilburn.

Lomeli, 135, scored a knockdown of Wilburn, 134, early in the round with a powerful right to the jaw. The fight was stopped soon after.

Lomeli, of Melrose Park, is 14-0. Wilburn hails from Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Chicago's 210-pound Oliver McCall won a hard-fought, unanimous, six-round decision over Wilmington, Delaware's Frank Witaker.

Ann Arbor, Michigan's Mike Johnson, 144, scored a unanimous, six-round decision over Anthony "Smoking Joe" Travis, 151.

Melrose Park welterweight Jack Carollow ended a scheduled four with a second-round TKO of Gary, Indiana's Jack Lark.

Chicago's David Davis TKO'd Albert King of Peoria, Illinois at 2:35 of the first round.

Promoter: Jolt'n Productions.
Referee: Stanley Berg.

(3-21-87)

INDIANA

Harold Brazier, one of the busiest boxers in the USA, defended his Indiana state welterweight title with a seventh-round TKO over Jimmy Baker.

▶**COLUMBUS National Guard Armory**—Within three weeks of successfully defending his NABF junior welterweight championship against John Meekins, South Bend's Harold Brazier was back in the Hoosier State to put his state welterweight title on the line.

Brazier used his arsenal of punches to TKO game, but outmanned hometowner Jimmy "Schoolboy" Baker as Baker failed to answer the bell for the seventh of the scheduled 12-rounder.

Anderson's Casey McGonigle, 154, won a four-round decision over Bloomington's Brian Young, 151.

Terre Haute's Kent Acuff, 148, scored a four-round decision over Omaha's Billy Evans, 150 ½.

In another four-round contest, Columbus' Hector Ramirez, 132, made his pro debut with a decision win over Omaha's Jockey Jay James, 132 ½.

Mark Brannon of Indianapolis scored a six-round decision over Terre Haute's Randy Reedy. Brannon weighed 135, Reedy, 134.

Omaha's Felix Dubret, 142, stopped Davenport, Iowa's Ted Spencer, 140 ½, at 1:35 of Round Six.

Promoters: Toni Lonaker and Tom Wetherald.
Matchmaker: Pete Susens.
Referees: George DeFabis and Bill Vaughn.
Judges: Harold Paton, Lance Rhodes and Gary Merritt.
Timekeepers: Eddie DeFabis and Beth Rhodes.
Physician: Dr. George Ginter.
Attendance: 368. Gross: $4,580.

(3-14-87)

GARY L. MERRITT

KENTUCKY

▶**LEXINGTON—Continental Inn**—A standing-room only crowd saw a generally good, six-bout card as boxing continued its revival in the Bluegrass.

Three local favorites, heavyweight James "Pritch" Pritchard, middleweight Paul McPeek and junior middleweight Darrin "Schoolboy" Van Horn, accounted for the overflow audience. It helped, no doubt, that only four days previous, Pritchard and McPeek had been seen on a nationally televised ESPN card.

In the eight-round main event, Van Horn, 154, had a night of target practice before scoring a six-round TKO over tough James "Pappa" Moore, 165. The good-looking, 18-year-old University of Kentucky freshman from Lexington had no trouble with the inept lunging and wild punching of the game Moore from Evansville, Indiana. But Van Horn fought the wrong fight, allowing Moore to get inside and slug with him. Van Horn showed he must tighten his defense if he is to go toe-to-toe as he did in this exciting match.

Moore was knocked down and through the ropes by a solid left hook in the fourth, but got up bravely and continued the unequal struggle. Moore went down again in the sixth, and referee Terry O'Brien decided he had seen enough, stopping the match at 2:47.

The TKO brought Van Horn's record to 28-0 with 19 stoppages, while Moore fell to a reputed 14-2. Van Horn's father, G.L., who serves as Darrin's trainer, promoter and manager, realizes his talented son needs better opposition if he is to keep progressing. He promises much better fighters will be brought in and sees a championship bout in the not too distant future.

Pritchard, of Louisville, TKO'd Lima, Ohio's Larry Phelps at 2:09 of the second of a mismatch scheduled for six. The fleshy Phelps, who weighed 212 to Pritchard's 210, simply should not have been in the same ring with the Mike Tyson lookalike, though he did show some gameness in going as far as he did.

McPeek, 163, remained undefeated with a stoppage at the end of the third round when the corner of Reggie Barnes, 161, threw in the towel. The 12-0 McPeek, of Ashland, had a willing opponent in Barnes, who hails from Memphis. But McPeek, who fights with a Duran-like intensity, simply beat down his man with an unrelenting body attack. Barnes is 8-4.

McPeek, a former junior-Olympics champion, is a real crowd pleaser and seems destined to be a factor in the post-Hagler middleweight picture. That is, if he can control his rapacious appetite. He came in with a good five excess pounds around his middle.

Lexington's Billy Durbin, 147, made his pro debut with a four-round, unanimous decision over amateurish Tommy Jeans, 145. Jeans, of Memphis, was pathetic, making his announced 3-3 record hard to believe.

Lima, Ohio's Ralph Ward, 160, raised his record to 8-0 with a hard-fought, unanimous, four-round decision over Evansville's Danny Thomas, 161. Thomas' record fell to a reputed 14-6-2. Sam Floyd refereed, and the skillful old pro junior middleweight could have whipped either man.

Promoter: BlueGrass Pro Boxing.
Matchmaker: G.L. Van Horn.
Timekeeper: Chuck Sayer.
Judges: Larry Mullins, Matthew O'Brien and Sam Floyd.
Physician: Dr. James Ross.
Attendance: 1,300 (est.).

(2-24-87)

▶**LEXINGTON—Continental Inn**—James "Pritch" Pritchard, 212, needs better opposition if he is to become, as many predict, a force to be reckoned with in the heavyweight division.

The Mike Tyson-lookalike from Louisville brought his 13-0-1 record in against an outclassed Darrell Peppers of Nashville and disposed of his fleshy foe by TKO at 2:20 of the second round of a scheduled eight-round main event.

Peppers, 195, looked far less experienced than his 7-2 record would indicate. He was knocked down in the first by an overhand right over his slow jab, but was able to get up and complete the round. Peppers tasted the canvas once again in the second. He got up and continued his amateurish efforts for a few seconds, but referee Terry O'Brien properly called it off.

In the evening's first bout, Mid-South champion Knox Brown, 162, stopped New Orleans' Earl White, 163, in a hard-fought contest. Both men were willing and stood in close, throwing bombs. By the fifth, however, Brown, of Memphis, had worn down his man and when he pounded White with an unanswered eight punches, O'Brien had seen enough, stopping the scheduled six-rounder at 2:40.

Lexington's Billy Durbin, 150, upped his record to 2-0, stopping Lima, Ohio's Earl Jackson, 150, at 2:47 of the third of a scheduled four. Jackson's defeat was caused as much by his own lack of condition as by Durbin's punches.

In a tremendously exciting bout that could qualify as club fight of the year, Evansville, Indiana's Joe Edens, 140, decisioned Nashville's Calvin "Jo Jo" Medina, 140, in a four-round slugfest. Southpaw Medina was dropped in the first by a picture-perfect straight right to the chin, got up and, after an exchange, dropped Edens with a right hook. Once again in the second, both men tasted the canvas. In the third, Medina was dropped by a solid right to the body. By the fourth, both were tired. And why not? There were no knockdowns in the last session, but Edens was

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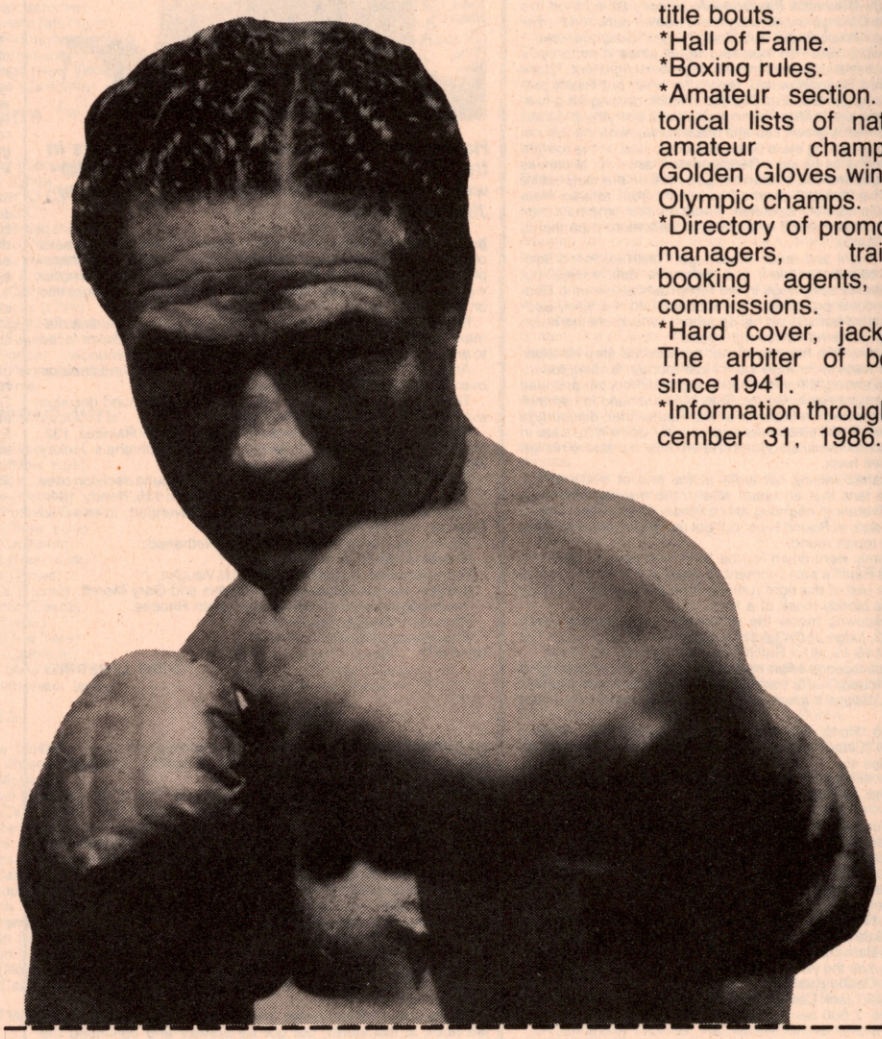

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fresher and carried the stanza. The judges saw Edens the unanimous winner. Both received a standing ovation from the appreciative crowd which realized it had witnessed a terrific contest.

Classy old pro Sam "King" Floyd of Louisville refuses to hang them up even at the advanced age of 36. Floyd, 160, showed he still has something by unanimously decisioning Nashville's Lopez McGee, 162, in a hard-fought six-round bout. McGee fought skillfully but was frustrated by Floyd's well-known defensive ability. It was close through the fourth, but in the fifth and sixth, McGee appeared more tired than the aged Floyd. The judges scored 59-57, 60-54 and 59-56.

Promoter: Thoroughbred Pro Boxing.
Matchmaker: G.L. Van Horn.
Timekeeper: Chuck Sayer.
Physician: Dr. James Ross.
Attendance: 1,000 (est.).
(3-17-87)

▶RICHMOND—Madison Central High School Gym— Local historians say it was the first professional boxing card ever held in Richmond, and the good size audience was treated to an entertaining evening. The event was staged to support the Dwight Marchall Medical Fund. Dwight Marshall is a former Madison High School (where the fights were held) graduate and a star baseball player. He is seriously ill with a brain tumor and requires extensive—and expensive—medical treatment.

Dr. George Ginter, a local anesthesiologist, with a 55-bout amateur and 4-0 pro boxing record, heard of Marshall's plight and stepped in. He stepped out of retirement and into the ring for a last pro appearance before the home folks, and he organized the entire event as well.

The class of the evening was North American Boxing Federation junior welterweight champ Harold Brazier, fresh from his successful title defense against highly regarded John Meekins. Life being unfair, however, the man the crowd most wanted to see was movie actor and former heavyweight contender Randall "Tex" Cobb, now, at 33, on the comeback trail.

Both Brazier and Cobb are to be congratulated for appearing on a benefit card, and both worked hard in the days preceding the fight to publicize the event.

Brazier, 142, South Bend, put on a beautiful display of boxing against his outclassed opponent, Billy Wills, 145, Wichita, Kansas. But when he received a nick over his eye in the second, Brazier, 42-7-2, decided to end the show. In the next round he did just that, knocking down Wills, 14-5, three times for an automatic TKO, administered by referee Terry O'Brien at 1:10 of the third in the scheduled eight-round bout.

In the 10-round main event, Cobb, 240, Abilene, Texas, demolished Frankie Alberts, 197, Omaha, Neb., by TKO at 0:55 of the second. Alberts was down twice in the first and twice again in the second before referee Chuck Sayer called it off.

Cobb is working himself back into shape and has his eye on Mike Tyson. "I wouldn't fight him for a nickel," said Cobb, "but if you're talking serious change, hey, it could be arranged."

In other action, George Reedy, 145, Terre Haute, improved his record to 6-8 with a workmanlike unanimous decision over George Randolph, 5-6, in a hard-fought, four-round bout which saw Randolph dropped in the third. Sayer refereed.

Marty Wolf, 137, Hayden, KY, upped his record to 2-0 by TKOing, 1-3 Danny Brumfield, 133, Cincinnati, at 1:58 of the second in a scheduled four-rounder. Sayer properly stopped the bout after Brumfield had been decked, got up, but was clearly out on his feet.

Ginter, 154, in a pugilistic farewell appearance, upped his record to 5-0 with a unanimous decision over tough, 5-5, Wayne Evans, 152, Omaha, Neb., in a four-round bout. Anesthesiologist Ginter, an articulate opponent of the American Medical Association's attempt to ban boxing, knocked down Evans in the third and fourth rounds, but was unable to anesthetize his opponent for the 10-count, probably because the good doctor was weakened from a bout with the flu.

Although singing his swan song as an active participant in the sweet science, Dr. Ginter plans to remain involved through the avenues of training and promotion. Good luck, George; you're the kind of representative boxing needs!

One of Ginter's proteges is 20-year-old Shawn Evans, 201, Louisville, a junior at Eastern Kentucky University, which is located in Richmond. To the delight of his TKE fraternity brothers, the debuting Evans took apart 2-5 Joe Presswood, 205, Cincinnati. Presswood, hoping to capitalize on the good-looking Evan's inexperience, came out strong only to be tagged with a short right on the button from the muscular Evans. Presswood was laid low and never stirred on the canvas while Sayer counted him out at 0:59 of the first. The only complaint against Evans was voiced by one of the many coeds present: "We didn't see enough of him," she moaned.

Another of Ginter's proteges is local bartender and EKU premed student Chuck Knapp, 147, Richmond, KY, who met 1-2 Al Bell, 145, Des Moines, Iowa. Their four-round match was a classic club fight and the most entertaining bout of the evening.

Personable and engaging though he is, the muscular Knapp, who was making his pro debut, is a pressure fighter and he pressed Bell from the first. In the second round, Bell was knocked down, got up, ran into trouble and was saved by a standing eight-count. In the third, Bell also received a standing eight-count. The fourth round was wild as Bell deliberately fouled Knapp by landing three solid left hooks to the groin, this in an effort to save himself from a certain KO. O'Brien should have disqualified Bell then and there. Instead, he only took a point away from him. However, an aroused Knapp jumped on Bell and battered him around the ring, then floored, him, at which point O'Brien called it off. TKO at 2:35 of the fourth.

Timekeeper: Emmitt Ego.
Ring Announcer: Dr. Ken Stein.
Referees: Chuck Sayer, Terry O'Brien.
Physicians: Drs. Charles H. Veurink and James T. Coy.
Promoter: Gregg Ginter.
Attendance: 1,800 (est.).
(3-31-87)

JOEL ROITMAN

MASSACHUSETTS

▶BOSTON—Strand Theater—Late problems resulted in a short, but lively card before a meager crowd.

In the eventual eight-round main event, Antonio DeBarros, 135, wasted no time in dispatching Holyoke's Julio DeJesus, 130, in 1:50.

The Oxenhill, Maryland native was tall and spidery and seemed content to keep DeJesus at the end of his stiff left jab. However, midway through the first round, DeBarros tagged his foe on the chin with a long right, and DeJesus turned and walked into the ropes, his eyes glassy. After a standing eight-count, action resumed, but DeJesus was defenseless and DeBarros landed three bombs in a right-left-right combination.

DeJesus went over on his back and was counted out, remaining flat for another five minutes as he fell to a supposed 8-3. The knockout was the eighth in the 9-0 record of Debarros.

Marblehead's Peter Galvin, 145, made his record 3-0, wearing down and stopping Springfield's Jay Mangual, 149, at 2:12 of the third of a scheduled six.

Another scheduled six had Bridgeport, Connecticut's Tony Rorie, 148, outslugging Whitman's Barry Stroum, 145, with the referee calling a halt 21 seconds into the fifth after Stroum's second trip to the canvas.

The four-round opener was the evening's closest match, Roxbury's Wayne Jones outlasting Trumball, Connecticut's Jimmy Hairston to gain a split decision in the spirited battle. Each weighed 175.

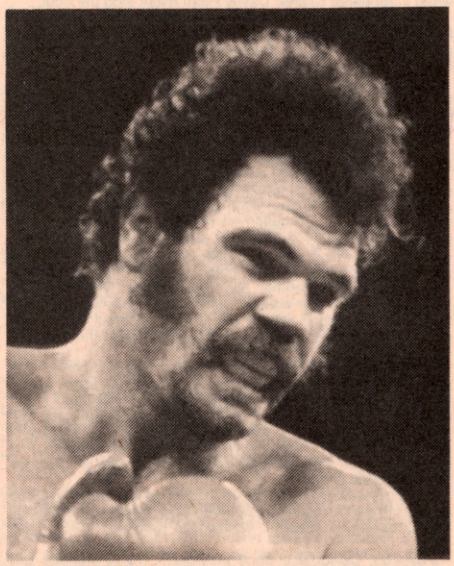
The night's main event was to have featured Malden welterweight John Rafuse, but when Rafuse met his substitute opponent at the noon weigh-in he refused to go on. His management had approved the new opponent two days before, but had neglected to tell the boxer. Another bout fell out, so DeBarros-DeJesus was extended from six to eight rounds and the Galvin-Mangual, Rorie-Stroum bouts went from four to six rounds.

Fans attending this show will be admitted for half-price at the next Pendarvis Boxing Club card.

Referees: Bill Connelly and Ed Fitzgerald.
Timekeeper: William Marinelli.
Physician: Dr. Rene Barrette.
Judges: Barbara Roach and Robert McCoy.
Attendance: 174. Gross: $2,610.
(3-26-87)

JAY N. MILLER

NEBRASKA



Tex Cobb is back! And Nebraska, where he stopped Rick Keller in two, is glad to have him.

▶LINCOLN—Big time boxing returned to the Cornhusker state after too long an absence, and a wildly enthusiastic crowd cheered on the comeback effort of Randall "Tex" Cobb in the main event.

Cobb, weighing 242, faced 230-pound Rick Keller of Council Bluffs, Iowa, in what was expected to be a 10-rounder. Keller, a protege of Ron Stander, unloaded salvos on Cobb in the first round that would have put Charles Bronson in the intensive care ward. However, Cobb is nothing if not durable, and the big guy weathered the storm and came back to halt Keller in the second heat.

Keller had been down three times when the referee called it a TKO at 2:26, giving Cobb the latest of a string of comeback wins he hopes will lead him back into some big fights.

In the second of the co-main events, local middleweight Doug Kaluza was impressive in pounding out a unanimous, five-round decision over tough Jesse Abrahams. It was a good one with the more aggressive Kaluza beating his Omaha foe decisively.

Old welterweight warhorse Ray Menefee of Lincoln, plagued by a bad shoulder for years, survived a vicious pounding by Omaha's Nicky Miller but came back to win via a KO in the sixth and final round. "Sour Ray," as he is known in these parts, called on some hidden reserve no one knew he had left for this one last hurrah, scoring the KO over his toughest foe in some time.

Lincoln middleweight Carlos Santistevan scored a well-fought, third-round TKO over Ronnie Brown of Davenport, Iowa.

Felix Dubray edged Wayne Grant on a close, five-round unanimous decision in a scrap between Omaha welterweights.

Omaha heavyweight Dan "Mayhem" Murphy moved his record to 11-1 with a stunning, first-round TKO over Chicago's Oswald Johnson. Johnson was game, but had been down twice before the referee halted the scheduled six-rounder.

Omaha lightweight Johnny Determan scored a four-round, unanimous decision over Javier Mendoza of Indianapolis.

Promoter: Rick Parker.
Matchmaker: Bruce Strauss.
Attendance: 2,500 (est.).
(4-7-87)

ROBERT J. RUIZ

NEVADA

▶CARSON CITY—The Ormsby House—The main event featured middleweights Clive "Bull" Chamberlain with a record of 12-1-2 with 10 KOs against Herman Cavasuala, who came in 16-3 with seven knockouts.

Cavasuala emerged with a unanimous, 10-round decision.

Chamberlain hails from Jamaica via Seattle, while Cavasuala is from the artichoke capital of the world, Castroville, California. Cavasuala's contingent of supporters provided the chokes for a feast the night before. The dinner had to have been better than the fight because people were raving about the dinner, but not the fight. The timing of Chamberlain was off and his footwork was a dance on the edge of disaster. He was open for a right hook all night, but Cavasuala didn't deliver it. Chamberlain had points taken away for hitting and holding, but there was more dancing than hitting.

Chamberlain complained later he was having trouble finding sparring partners in Seattle.

Middleweights Gilbert Vanequela of Salinas, California, and Rick Jarvis of Salem, Oregon, drew in a six-round bout. Both came out smoking and both could dish out and take punishment. Vanequela weighed 165, Jarvis, 159 ¾.

Junior lightweight Guy Leyva of Reno was too much for Willie McQueen of Portland, scoring a KO in 1:17.

Boise welterweight Brian Fleming made his pro debut with a six-round, split decision over Miguel Banuelos of Lovelock, Nevada.

Solidad, California's George Garcia made quick work of Salem, Oregon's Billy Martinez, scoring a KO in 2:12 of their lightweight match.

Promoter: Bill Ferris.
Matchmaker: Ted Walker.
Judges: Tucker, Guamos and McDonald.
Referee: Mills Lane.
Attendance: 800 (est.).
(3-21-87)

BILL SARGENT

▶LAS VEGAS—Caesars Palace—Iran Barkley's far-western debut couldn't have been too satisfying considering he finished a "one-eyed fighter" swinging like a "one-armed paperhanger."

Even the elements were against Top Rank celebrating its seven-year association with ESPN as wind and rain sent many of the 2,000 spectators scampering for cover long before Barkley won a questionable, 10-round decision over gutty Jorge Amparo of Las Vegas.

Barkley, showing as a Bronx belter who had trouble with his timing, improved his credentials to 21-2 with 14 KOs, but it ap-

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pears he'll be on the shelf until mid-summer, having been cut twice on the left eye in the sixth round. The eye was completely closed by the fight's finish, requiring 15 stitches.

Barkley, 160, dropped Amparo, 161½, twice, the first time with a left hook in the fifth round that caught the transplanted Dominican off-balance and again in the ninth. The latter appeared to be a slip, though referee James Molinell made no ruling to that effect. However, two judges scored the round 10-10 when Amparo rallied with late flurries. Amparo caught the eye of judges Jerry Roth and Patricia Jarman when he drew Barkley into a slugging bee, but Lou Tabat recorded it 10-8.

Barkley won the first five rounds on the cards of Roth and Tabat, while taking all but the fourth with Jarman. Yet Amparo, the Orient-Pacific 160-pound champion whose log dropped to 12-7-1 with four KOs, mixed determination with sporadic flurries to get back in a fight where two knockdowns were ultimately the margin of victory.

Roth, who gave Amparo the sixth through the 10th rounds, voted 96-94 for Barkley, a figure matched by Jarman, though she gave the last round to Barkley. Tabat was less impressed, giving the New Yorker a 96-90 win with only the sixth and eighth rounds going to Amparo.

Barkley was undraped locally as *The Ring's* No. 2 contender, but did little to elevate that position.

San Diego's Orlin Norris is making a name for himself as an 11th-hour substitute, scoring his third local victory by knocking out Eddie Richardson of Dallas at 1:22 of the second round of a scheduled 10. Norris, 214, lost the opening round but moved to 11-1 with six KOs when he connected with three leaping left hooks and a right to stretch Richardson, 220, for referee Richard Steele's 10-count. Richardson is 12-7-1 with six KOs.

Dr. Terry Christle of Dublin, Ireland, and Brockton, Massachusetts, carved up New Mexico's Sam Houston for five rounds to extend his record to 13-0-1 with nine KOs. Houston, 8-7-1 with six KOs, was bleeding from face cuts that cut short the scheduled six. Christle weighed 160, Houston, 158.

Terry Norris, 20-year-old brother of Orlin, made his local debut with a 40-second TKO of Neto Rayos. Norris is 8-0 with four KOs. Rayos fell to 5-3.

Long Beach, California's Engels Pedroza, 140, made it six straight knockouts since turning pro with a one-minute bombout of Los Angeles' Carlos Villareal, 139.

Physician—Dr. Flip Homansky.
(4-3-87)

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Robbie Sims (right) lands a right uppercut en route to a fifth-round TKO over Lee Sanders in Last Vegas.

▶**LAS VEGAS—Showboat**—The week wasn't a total loss for Marvelous Marvin Hagler's family as far as wins and losses was concerned, even if the big one got away.

In fact, fighters from Brockton, Massachusetts, trained and managed by Goody and Pat Petronelli, who have skillfully guided Hagler's career, swept a Top Rank/ESPN middleweight doubleheader.

Hagler, a loser to Ray Leonard four nights earlier, even managed a smile when he watched his younger half-brother, Robbie Sims, rebound for an impressive, five-round TKO over tough Lee Sanders of Lake Charles, Louisiana.

In a companion 10, Sims' stablemate from Brockton, Jerry Holly, scored a mild upset when he fashioned a unanimous decision over San Diego's Tim Williams, who held Sims to a 10-round draw Feb. 12.

Sims, 160, looked like a different fighter than the one surprised by the aggressive Williams as he improved his record to 28-4-2 with 20 KOs. He set the tempo, dropping Sanders, 159, early in the first round with a double left hook. He also mixed a southpaw offense with jolting body punches and uppercuts. Sims again hurt Sanders with a combination to the head early in the third round, then reeled off a 20-punch salvo which had the Southerner reeling into the ropes. Sims came out of the round with a slight cut over his left eye, but it was never a factor.

Sanders, whose record dipped to 13-3 with 10 KOs, absorbed a withering body assault in the fourth, prompting referee Carlos Padilla to call upon ringside physician Donald Romeo. Romeo gave Sanders one more round, but it ended at 1:53 of the fifth when Sims rattled Sanders with three overhand rights, then dropped him with a body barrage. As Sanders sagged to the canvas at mid-ring, Padilla waved it over.

"I had an off-day with Williams and couldn't get anything going right, but I think this fight proved it," said a pleased Sims. "Sanders was a durable, tough guy."

Hagler, resplendent in a dark blue suit, red tie and white shirt, was beaming like a kid at center ring.

"If Robbie keeps looking like that, he can be a champion," the deposed champion predicted. "I know his capabilities. He fought a good fight. Robbie was very sharp. He was putting everything together."

Williams, 162½, fought impressively in the first and last rounds, and it cost him a derailment by Holly, whose performance belies his 18-13, 13 KO record.

Williams, skidding to 12-3-1 with 10 KOs, hurt Holly in the final 60 seconds of the opening round, driving him into the ropes with a left-right-left and another combination after the bell. The taller Holly, 162½, was effective at long range and got back into the fight when he was able to whack Williams with wide-sweeping left hooks. Holly, a transplanted Florida native, hurt Williams with a five-punch volley to the head early in the fifth. Williams was having difficulty getting his hands up and there was an instant when it appeared referee Davey Pearl might stop the bout.

Holly dropped his hands early in the eighth, complaining of a low blow. Pearl took no action, and Williams was late with a glancing right to the jaw. Before the round was over, Holly was backing up his adversary.

Holly appeared to tire in the final round, and Williams almost pulled it out when he hurt Holly with a big right. Holly repeatedly held, but Williams landed another right just before the bell that sent Holly reeling into the ropes, barely able to keep his footing.

Patricia Jarman scored 98-93, Chuck Giampa, 96-94, and Art Lurie, 97-94. *The Ring* saw it 97-93, Holly.

The honeymoon ended for Frank Duffy and even the luck of the Irish wasn't enough to stave off the first loss of his unique career. Duffy, who scored eight straight KOs as a pro, looked like he was going to make Tom Covington of Phoenix No. 9, winning the first two rounds of a scheduled six. Duffy, 167½, usually doesn't move into high gear until he has been knocked down at least once, and Covington, 166, obliged in the third, cutting the popular Irishman over the right eye. This time, Lady Luck looked the other way as Duffy made a belated bid in the fourth, but Covington scored with a right uppercut that almost snapped off Duffy's head, and Pearl abbreviated the action at 1:22. Covington is 7-4.

Joe Belinc of Marsyville, Washington, continued his winning ways in a scheduled eight-rounder, stopping Albuquerque's Conrad Maez at 2:30 of the third round. Belinc, who weighed 139 in raising his log to 17-1 with nine knockouts, dropped Maez with a short right early in the third round. Maez, 139½, was up at eight, but Belinc put him flat on his back again with two lefts and a right. Referee Carlos Padilla reached the count of five, then terminated the action.

Akeem Anifowoshe, Las Vegas, had too many moves for Jorge Lujan of Phoenix, recording his third-straight victory with a unanimous, four-round decision. Anifowoshe weighed 116½, Lujan, 117.

Fullerton, California's Chris McVicker, 175½, dropped Las Vegas' David Enroth, 173, twice to gain a TKO win at 1:46 of the first of a scheduled four.

Octavio Guardado was a heist victim as he hammered Tim Mosely in three of four rounds only to settle for a draw. Guardado, 134, is from Los Angeles, with Mosley, 134½, from Las Vegas.
(4-10-87)

JACK WELSH

▶**RENO—Peppermill Hotel & Casino**—Light heavyweight Nicky Walker of Carson City overcame awkward southpaw James Waire of Los Angeles to win a unanimous, 10-round decision.

The 25-year-old Walker, 167½, hurt Waire in the seventh round en route to winning by scores of 97-93 and 98-92 (twice). Waire, who matched Walker's poundage, bloodied Walker's nose with a right hand in the second round.

The victory left Walker with a 33-2-2 record.

In the semifinal main event, Reno's Elias Mayorga, 158, knocked out Ashland, Oregon's Guy Wilson in just 1:08.

Reno's Rob Murphy, 157¾, scored a unanimous, four-round decision over Ashland's Steve Chaney, 155½.

Salem, Oregon's Billy Martinez, 134½, took a unanimous four from Santa Rosa, California's Leo Benitez, 133¾.

Green Bay, Wisconsin's Joey Cristjon, 212, and Vallejo, California's Terry Davis fought to a four-round draw.
(4-25-87)

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NEW JERSEY

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Resorts International**—It was, in reality, a fight the promoter didn't want to make. But, he was stuck with it.

Two opponents had fallen out against Tony Martin, and Sanford Ricks was choice C. If nothing else, at least he showed up.

Martin, 141, is not a big banger, but a fairly busy boxer with a rather stiff jab. However, the Philadelphian still has tricks to master and setting down on his punches is just one of them. On the other hand, Ricks, of East Orange, has the tricks, but lacks the punch, or even the zest, for victory. He has reached the proverbial dead end.

Ricks, 142½, did the decent thing by not folding up, but his "Do Not Disturb" sign was visibly displayed for the entire 30 minutes. Martin was business-like, but none too spectacular in pressing his way to a very forgettable, ho-hum, unanimous decision. It was a "workout win" if there ever was one.

Said the winner, "I had to be more aggressive because he was a runner. But the main thing for me was that it was my first 10-rounder, and I wanted to feel the distance."

What he didn't feel were the punches of Ricks. There weren't any.

Joe Pasquale was very charitable to Ricks, scoring 99-91, Martin. Frank Brunette and Eugene Grant saw it 100-90. Under the more liberal guidelines of the New Jersey 10-point system, *The Ring* card had it 100-88.

Don Cioffi, 139½, used his considerable strength to bulldoze previously undefeated Keith Grimes, 137, and gain a unanimous, six-round decision. Cioffi, of Hopatchong, displayed a wild and woolly attack and was just too much for the mentally untough Baltimore visitor, who was also dropped in Round One by a left hook. Cioffi took it from there.

Brunette called it a trifle close at 57-56, with Pasquale and Grant closer to the truth at 58-55.

Philadelphia's Vinnie Burgese, 140½, inflated his mark to 9-0 with a third-round TKO over Terre Haute, Indiana southpaw, Kent Acuff, 141½. Acuff was not exactly in the world's best fighting shape for the scheduled eight-rounder, so he did the next best thing and gave his all until there was no more to give. He backed to the ropes and covered up, offering no punches in return, and referee Joe O'Neil stopped the bout and administered a standing-eight count. O'Neil never finished, waving it over at 2:48 after careful scrutiny of the weary Acuff.

Philadelphian Bryant Paden, 135¾, got his fourth win over an undefeated boxer as he received a rather lopsided, unanimous six-round decision over Miami's Ivan Gonzalez, 138½. Both boxers played it rather cautious until Paden opened up against his taller foe in the last round to push his record to 7-0. Gonzalez fell to 10-1, but scores of 59-55 by both Brunette and Grant and a 60-54 card from Pasquale had more than a few ringsiders puzzled. *The Ring* had it 57-57.

In a scheduled four, Reading, Pa.'s Lenny Bainbridge, 139½, won by TKO at 54 seconds of the third over Clementon's David Jones, 140½. It was a fairly even match until Jones got over-anxious after rocking Bainbridge and walked smack into a right hand that dumped him on the canvas. Jones managed to pick himself up, but either inexperience or the cobweb syndrome led him to turn his back and walk away from referee O'Neil, who wisely waved it over to protect the neophyte.

Promoter: Madison Square Garden.
Referees; Joe O'Neil and Tony Orlando.
Timekeeper: Lindsey Tucker.
Matchmaker: Bobby Goodman.
(4-2-87)

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Harrah's Marina**—Houston's Frank Tate, 162¾, took a rather intriguing matchup and carved it into little pieces as he blew into town and all but blew away a competent opponent in Philadelphia's Marvin Mack, 162.

Mack had managed some quality performances against a number of name opponents, but had no success whatsoever when he tangled with the former Olympic champ.

While Tate might not necessarily set the world on fire with his herky-jerky moves, he certainly can fight as he proved just too darn agile and accurate for his limited, but always dogged adversary. Mack came to pressure Tate, but found out early that Tate packed a punch when the Philadelphian paid a speedy visit to the canvas via a sling-shot right hand. Mack somehow just as quickly bounded up, but the pattern of coming events had been set.

Mack also received a standing-eight count from referee Rudy Battle in Round Four. Though he gamely stuck it out, his flat-footed, straight-ahead approach played right into the hands of Tate. The always coherent winner was continually alert and responsive to cornerman Jesse Reid's instructions, using his rangy boxer/puncher technique to avoid what little trouble Mack could toss his way.

The decision after 10 rounds was unanimous, Lynn Carter seeing it 99-98 with Joe Pasquale calling it 99-90. Milo Savage agreed with *The Ring*, scoring 100-89.

"Every time I hurt him, I was trying to take him out even though he was a bigger man," Tate said of Mack, who previously boxed at weights ranging from 168 to 173 pounds. "I didn't want to go the distance."

A dejected Mack said, "He was just sharper. I couldn't get off like I wanted to. You have some good nights and some bad nights. The timing wasn't there."

New Castle, Delaware's Dave Tiberi, 165½, took a shutout, six-rounder over Baltimore's John Keys, 160. Tiberi boxed cautiously for the most part but wasn't afraid to rumble when Keys tried to take the lead. Keys received a bloody nose in the third.

Philadelphia's Earl Moorman, 123, won a six-round, majority decision over Ricky Marquez, 126. Moorman, a tall southpaw, had some anxious moments from his Queens, New York foe, but controlled enough of the middle minutes to bring home scores of 59-55 from Pasquale and 58-57 from Savage. Carter called it 57-57.

Brooklyn's Jorge Rivas, 126½, opened the evening with a four-round TKO over Philadelphia's Willie Ford, 128. The southpaw Rivas was battering Ford near the ropes when referee Frank Cappuccino stepped in at 2:07. While there were no knockdowns,

both came to fight in a pleasing bout scheduled for four.

Piscataway's Adam Garland, 158½, closed the show when he got a 41-second TKO over Washington, D.C.'s Bill Davis in another scheduled four. Davis was felled by one left hook. He managed to beat the count by a few seconds, but Cappuccino decided against letting it continue.

Promoter: HBA.
Timekeeper: Justin Bucanico.
Matchmaker: Ron Katz.
Referees: Rudy Battle and Frank Cappuccino.
(3-27-87)

JACK OBERMAYER

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Harrah's Marina Hotel & Casino**—Being nursed a bit too cautiously to a title shot, Calvin Grove once again was able to prevail without a real challenge. Not after the first couple of rounds, anyway. Grove, 126½, Coatesville, PA, won a shutout, unanimous decision over sub Angel Hernandez, 129, Guadalajara, Mex., via L.A., 10. Calvin looked like he might be in for a serious battle when Hernandez seemed to jar him with a left hook and cut his right eye in the first. Grove was visibly worried. "The eye affected me a lot because I kept worrying about the fight being stopped on a cut," he admitted later. "I was concerned that everything I worked for in the last two years would be wasted." Not to worry! By the fourth, Angel was showing he hardly belonged in the ring with Calvin. Charging in recklessly, he was dumped, then again in the fifth. Hernandez was never in the fight after that, but was all smiles at the end . . . just proud to be here. Ref, Tony Perez.

Improving Job Walters, 125¾, Long Beach, LI, upset touted Pasquale Procopio, 127, Montreal, via unanimous decision in a fine eight. The stocky Canadian was rough early, banging to the ribs. But the rangy Walters showed surprising ability to mix with him inside and took advantage of his reach to make Pasquale pay coming in. Procopio never gave up, but as the fight wore on Job forged solidly into control. Ref, Randy Neumann.

Aaron Davis, 149, NYC, impressed with a TKO over ambitious, but less-skilled James Johnson, 150, Wash., DC, at 2:57 of the second, scheduled six. Johnson attacked with vigor, but played right into Aaron's hands, was slowly dismantled by a volley, and dropped. Ref, Neumann.

Darrin Morris, 149¾, Detroit via Wash., DC, had Mario Batiz, 148, La Ceiba, Honduras, via NYC, ready to fold from a compatriot, turned to boxing, and had to settle for a unanimous decision over the game Honduran, four. Ref, Perez.

Promoter: HBA/East & Madison Square Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker: Ron Katz, Bobby Goodman.
Attendance: 800 (est.).
Judges: Frank Cairo, Thomas Kaczmarek & Frank Brunette.
Timekeeper: Art Spell.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
(3-26-87)

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Sands Hotel Casino**—Coming back from his title loss, Ras-I Aluja (Livingstone) Bramble nearly burned up on re-entry against a very tough opponent. Fred Pendleton never seems able to win or lose a fight cleanly. They all seem to end in bitter controversy. This one was anything but an exception, as Bramble, 139, Hammonton Township, NJ, was lucky to get a roundly booed, majority draw with Pendleton, 139, Phila./Miami, 10. The bout itself was excellent, with action, drama, fine boxing by Pendleton and a thrilling, desperation rally by Bramble. The fans were ecstatic until the decision abruptly turned their rejoicing into an almost unanimous outburst of rage and indignation.

The former champion looked anything but good. He showed none of the slick defense that had enable him to pull his head out of a punch's arc by a fraction, though Pendleton is a hard guy to sharpen such a skill against. Ironically, what Bramble did show was a determination many accused him of lacking in his dismal title loss. Freddie outboxed him at the start and his long jab had Livingstone's left eye dangerously puffy as early as the second. In the fourth, Ras-I tried to slow him with a body attack, but Fred showed he could punch, too, as he hurt Bramble with a right cross. Action began to boil as they exchanged savagely to the bell. After a lull, a confident Pendleton seemed to nail down the win as he spanked the ex-champ in the seventh and eighth. Bramble was boxed silly and tormented with the jab in the seventh as his swollen eye began to look nasty. By the next round, he could no longer get out of the way of snappy rights and appeared a beaten fighter. The crowd was alive with the anticipation of upset. But Bramble made a gutty rally in the final two as he did the only thing he could, swarming Pendleton almost on instinct alone. The final session was pure mayhem as the two took turns rocking each other. Fred was a bit sharper, but Ras-I just kept throwing. It was close, but Pendleton appeared to have maintained the overall dominance and got "Rocky" Castellani's vote, 97-95. But William Kostrub and Frank Cairo both tallied 95-95. Joe Cortez refereed.

Both fighters seemed content with the decision, but from opposite directions. Bramble probably knew he was lucky to pull it out, while Pendleton earned a moral victory against the favorite. A subdued Bramble stated, "He fought a good fight in terms of impressing the judges. He landed a couple of clean shots at times, but I felt that I landed more punches. My mistake is I don't throw as much as I should." A relaxed Pendleton explained, "I got a swell head, I clown a little bit, and that's not liked in boxing. I gotta' break out of that. I'm disappointed with the draw, but the crowd and everybody else recognizes that I'm the winner."

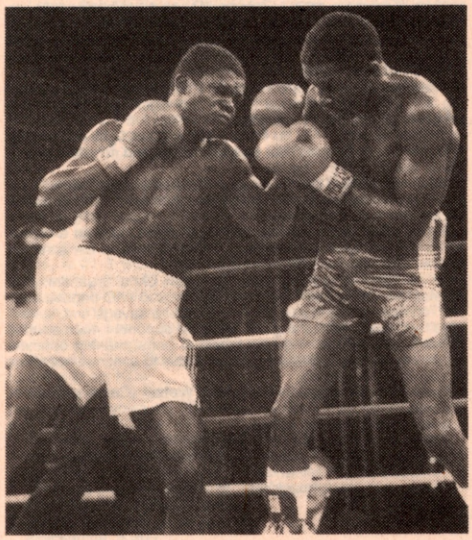
In the only good bout on a forgettable undercard, Steve Frank, 139, Miami, earned a unanimous decision from Rasheed Ali, 141, Brooklyn, eight. In a battle of two slick boxers, Frank started tentatively, then took firm control once he hit his rhythm. The stocky Ali couldn't deal with the rangy Steve's reach, but finally put over a sneak right in the last round as Frank was wobbled and had to scramble to the safety of the scorecards. Ref, Cortez.

Glenn Thomas, 153½, Louisville via Wilmington, Del., so easily battered poor Kim Berlt, 153, Huntington, W. Va., that the embarrassment had to be stopped at just 1:23 or the first, scheduled eight. Ref, Randy Neumann.

Tyrone (Mitchell) Frazier, 166, Wyandanch, LI, via Phila., methodically tracked down runner Joe Blevins, 166, Beckley, W. Va., to floor him twice in the fourth. The southpaw was unable to come out for the fifth, scheduled six. Ref, Neumann.

Darrell Underwood, 159½, Phila., took less time with lefty Donald Davis, 149¾, Parkersburg, W. Va., hurting him to the body. Davis was unable to come out for the second of six, Ref, Neumann.

Promoter: "Butch" Lewis.
Matchmaker: "Rock" Newman.
Attendance: 450 (est.).
Timekeeper: Art Spell.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
(4-3-87)



Anthony "Nightmare" Pearson (left) edged Steve Little over eight close rounds in Atlantic City.

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Resorts Int'l**—John Meekins was eased back in from his loss to Harold Brazier with a made-for opponent in Sergio Aguirre. Meekins, 140½, NYC, TKO'd Aguirre, 141, Mex. City via Harlingen, TX, at 1:34 of the third, scheduled 10. Aguirre had the typical "Texican" style, a guile-less wade-in banger, but couldn't match Meekins for hand speed or sharpness of execution. A right dropped Sergio to one knee just before the bell ended the second, then left hooks twice floored him in the third before ref Frank Cappuccino halted it.

The winner, who considers himself a student of the art, was grateful for the experience. Meekins said of the Brazier loss, "When a guy works that hard and beats you, it's something you have to respect. I'm grateful to the man for showing me I have to be more concerned with the art of boxing. It's a lot like baseball. If you say, 'I'm gonna hit a home run,' you won't. But if you say, 'I'm gonna hit the ball,' the home runs will happen."

George Leach, 146¾, Hillcrest Hgts., MD, upset Alex Medel, 147, Sunrise, FL, with a TKO at 1:55 of the seventh, scheduled eight. In solid action, the straight-forward Medel was having trouble with Leach's tricky, switchhitting moves. But Alex seemed to be turning the corner after George tired in the fifth only to be badly rocked by a sneak right counter to a careless attack. Ref Rudy Battle gave Medel a standing eight, then stopped it when he was immediately rocked into the ropes again.

Anthony "Nightmare" Pearson, 143, Paterson, was lucky to get an unpopular unanimous verdict over sleeper Steve Little, 143, Phila., in a bitterly contested eight. Pearson also had trouble with his opponent's switch-hitting style, took time to set up classy combinations, and got cuffed around plenty in between. It was close and see-saw all the way, with the judges seemingly going for Pearson's more impressive style over Little's greater output. Ref, Cappuccino.

Alphonso Bailey, 153, Lodi, NJ, didn't have an easy time gaining a unanimous decision over little-regarded Bill Robinson, 153¼, Brooklyn, six. The touted Bailey wasn't sharp and had to resort to outmuscling Robinson with a purely physical attack. Ref. Battle.

Dave Tiberi, 161¼, New Castle, Del., scored a repeat, unanimous win over John Keys, 163, Balto., in the only one-sided bout on a fine undercard, six. Gaining confidence, the once-cautious Tiberi battered game Keys and had him nearly out on his feet at the final bell. Ref, Battle.

Promoter: Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.).
Matchmaker: Teddy Brenner, Bruce Trampler.
Attendance: 900 (est.).
Judges: Milo Savage, Ron Burns & Al DeVito.
Timekeeper: Roosevelt Gilbert.
Announcer: Mike Buffer.
(4-27-87)

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Resorts Int'l**—Frankie Randall's win over Shelton LeBlanc was a virtual carbon copy of his previous outing here in which he routed Al Martino. The main difference was that LeBlanc exhibited more grace under pressure, stuck around longer and managed to exit without his tail between his legs. Randall, 135, Morristown, TN, was close to flawless in taking apart southpaw LeBlanc, 135¼, Lafayette, LA, in five rounds of a scheduled 10. Though a cutie boxer, LeBlanc had neither the power to trade with nor the skills to fend off the impressive Randall. Frankie applied pressure and worked his combinations well, exhibiting both skill and power. Though he was never in serious trouble, Shelton became painfully aware of this and opted to remain in his corner at the start of the sixth. "I've been around too long to just stay in there and get beat up," the loser admitted. "After the first round, I couldn't get anything going." Joe Cortez refereed.

The co-feature, by contrast, involved poor performances by both fighters made worse by equally bad efforts from two of the judges. Tim Burgess, 133¾, NYC, ended up with an undeserved draw against Miguel "El Zorro" Santana, 136, Canovanes, PR, via Bronx, 10. Burgess must have been awarded points for embarrassment as he scampered around in the early going and succeeded in smothering any ideas Santana may have had about offense. Finding himself still there by the middle rounds, Tim gained confidence and began to fight back. Everyone but Santana enjoyed some action for a change. But the frustrated Puerto Rican managed a late charge that should have reclaimed the lead. Judge Richard F. Murry thought so, 98-93, but the verdict was blown by Phil Newman, 96-95 Burgess, and Charlie Spina, 95-95. Ref, Ted Pick.

Impressive Harold "The Shadow" Knight, 131¾, Plainfield, hit too hard and often for game Darrell Savoy, 130¾, Carencro, LA. The southpaw Savoy tried to trade with Harold, flurrying to the body in the second only to be cracked on the jaw by a left hook and dumped on his face. Savoy hung around into the fourth when he was sent reeling from another countering left hook, and Cortez stopped the scheduled eight at 2:11.

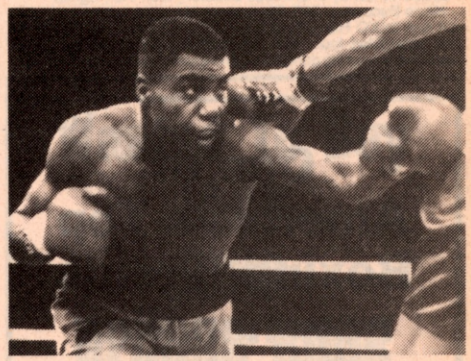
Returning from a layoff, Chris Eubanks, 156, Bronx, looked sharp, beating up unbeaten southpaw James Canty, 155, Hyattsville, MD, for a unanimous win in a roughhouse four. Ref, Pick.

An exhausted Vince "Poncho" Tiberi, 183¼, Newark, Del., staved off a late rally by Charvez "The Wolf" Francisco, 188, Morristown, to hold onto a narrow, split decision win in a mauling four. Ref, Pick.

Promoter: Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.).
Matchmaker: Teddy Brenner, Bruce Trampler.
Attendance: 800 (est.).
Timekeeper: Lindsay Tucker.
Announcer: Mike Buffer.
(3-25-87)

J.R. JOWETT

PENNSYLVANIA



Robert Hines returned to action after a long layoff to stop Ismael Negron in the seventh round in Philadelphia.

▶**PHILA.—Blue Horizon**—"I'm coming back for the money," admitted Robert Hines on his second return to the ring. If so, he may have wondered if it was all worth it after a savage battle with stubborn Ismael Negron. Hines, 155, W. Phila., finally subdued Negron, 154, Newark, at 2:38 of the seventh, but not until unloading his entire aresenal several times over in the scheduled 10. The southpaw had gained a reputation as a talented, but somewhat reluctant warrior. But here, Hines was all offense. He floored Negron with a left early in the second, but Ismael fought back furiously. Several more times, the visitor was in trouble only to save himself with a desperation comeback in torrid exchanging. The pace finally began to tell on Negron as he was pounded along the ropes to suffer a standing eight count in the sixth. Negron was having his head snapped without return when ref Rudy Battle ruled it over.

Marvin Garris, 139, N. Phila., was too much for willing Curtis Adams, 136½, Germantown (Phila.), scoring a unanimous win in a rematch, eight. Currtis came in gunning all night, but every time he got going, Marvin would switch southpaw and kill the rally. Otherwise, Garris punched too hard and sharp in bristling, even though one-sided, action. Ref, Battle.

Greg Tutt, 156½, S. Phila., got a spirited battle from Keith Martin, 153, Baltimore, but came out of an exchange with a vicious right cross that nearly drilled the visitor into the canvas for a KO at 2:21 of the second, scheduled eight. Ref, Ozzie Sadler.

Willie "The Little Worm" Monroe, 163½, Rochester/Ithaca, engaged Lou Owens, 161, Wilmington, in trench warfare until Lou was sapped by a thudding body attack and stopped on his feet at 2:22 of the fourth, scheduled six. Ref, Sadler.

Nate Miller, 192½, Germantown, played it smart and cautious against slugger Ricardo Spain, 198, formerly Columbus, OH,

PHOTO BY BILL BARON

now N. Phila. Miller circled, boxed and outclassed the crude Spain to win a unanimous verdict in a hard-fought six. Ref, Battle.

Frankie Mitchell, 134, formerly Columbus, now S. Phila., buried hapless William Reid, 138, Balto., in a blizzard of punches until his corner tossed the towel at 0:53 of the second, scheduled six. Ref, Sadler.

Promoter: Peltz Boxing Promotions.
Matchmaker: J. Russell Peltz.
Attendance: 1230, $15,000 (est.).
Judges: Al Morris, Manny Altman & Carol Polis.
Timekeeper: J.P. Mina.
Announcer: Mel Perry.
(3-31-87)

▶**PHILA.—Golden Eagle**—Promoter J. Russell Peltz opened a "branch office" of his successful Blue Horizon club to accommodate fans of Anthony Boyle, a neighborhood star. Boyle, 128½, Kensington, had an easy, unanimous shutout of clever veteran Jose "Speedy" Gonzalez, 127, formerly of Virginia Beach, now Troy, NY, eight. "Speedy" can be dangerous, but evidently liked Anthony and managed to put on a good show without ruffling the kid's feathers. Gonzalez kept the fans entertained with a lot of motion and razzle-dazzle, but wasn't really a serious offensive threat. Boyle worked his combinations well and probably gained by the experience. Ref, Charlie Sgrillo.

Anthony "Cobra" Williams, 137½, W. Phila., got more of a scare with a split verdict over James Woodhouse, 137, N. Phila., eight. Woodhouse's nifty boxing and movement had Williams trailing lamely in early going, but "Cobra" turned up the heat and the somewhat frail James couldn't continue to remain out of harm's way. Adalaide Tyndale voted 40-32 and Joe O'Neil a more reasonable 38-34 for the winner, while Manny Altman favored the loser, 37-35. Ref, John Carroll.

Frankie Mitchell, 136, Columbus, OH, via N. Phila., scored a repeat win over Mike Brown, 136½, N. Phila., but this time had to settle for a split decision, six. Spoiler Brown evidently picked up some pointers from their first encounter and Mitchell had to overwhelm him with a surge of late activity to hold onto the win. Ref, Sgrillo.

Hard-brawling Kevin Fasick, 152, Altoona via N. Phila., just edged returning Manuel Braga Opher, 149½, N. Phila., by split decision in an action-packed four. Kevin smoked Manuel's ribs, but was made to pay and tired in the process. The crafty boxing of Opher was beginning to prevail as he had Kevin's left eye closing when he ran out of rounds. Ref, Carroll.

Another returning lad was unbeaten prospect Leroy Owens, 152½, Jeffersonville, PA. Leroy had been on hiatus since the troubled Montgomery County BC gym closed, but was reactivated under Howard McCall. Owens looked sharp, dishing out a fearsome beating to brave Hakki Gulmez, Turkey via Paulsboro, NJ, by unanimous decision, four. Ref, Sgrillo.

Kevin Bucceroni, 205, Blackwood, NJ, returned from a knockout loss to KO Harry Pughsley, 205½, N. Phila., at 1:10 of the first, scheduled four. Harry charged out, but showed a lack of resolve after getting dumped by an inside left hook. Ref, Carroll.

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Promoter—Peltz Boxing Promotions.
Matchmaker—J. Russell Peltz, Gary Hegyi.
Attendance—850, $10,000 (est.).
Timekeeper—J.P. Mina.
Announcer—Hank Kropinski.
(04-21-87)

▶**PHILA.—Woodhaven Sports Center**—A popular and crowd-pleasing neighborhood lad who's been laboring for some time in the preliminaries finally got his chance in a main event. Brian McGinley, 147½, Kensington, didn't disappoint, with an action-packed, unanimous win over Bill Robinson, 151, Brooklyn, six. The unpredictable Robinson sometimes sleep walks, but this night fought his tail off. McGinley was more than equal to the task as he outgunned Robinson in head-on exchanges and had him fading and in trouble at the final bell. Ref, John Carroll.

Todd Englehart, 157, Lebanon, PA, had his hands full with Tammy Small, 154, Sophia, W. Va. The two leaned on each other and mixed it up in rugged inside action until Small sustained a cut eye and suffered a TKO after four rounds of a scheduled six. Ref, Charlie Sgrillo.

Improving Kenny Page, 161½, N. Phila., easily outboxed willing, but unschooled Robert Curry, 162, Beckley, W. Va., for a unanimous win, six. Ref, Sgrillo.

William Morris, 175, N. Phila., got a good fight out of Bert Graveley, 175, Beckley, but was too skilled and scored a unanimous win, four. Ref, Sgrillo.

Kevin Bernard, 175, Kensington, rocked Robert Harris, 176, N. Phila., in serious exchanging early, then went on to a unanimous win, four, Ref, Carroll.

Ticket-seller Bobby Kallur, 161, N.E. Phila., scored a repeat win over reluctant Kelvin Hanton, 162, N. Phila., in a mauler, by unanimous decision, four. Ref, Carroll.

In the fight of the night, invading villain Chris Organtini, 139, Norristown, rallied from a cut eye to floor and TKO popular local kid Ted Greer, 139, Kensington, in 2:56 of a savage first, scheduled four. Organtini harangued his fallen opponent, then strutted defiantly around the ring to a tirade of boos, making obscene gestures, cursing and inviting Greer's pals to continue hostilities in the ring! Ref, Sgrillo.

Promoter: Vic Capcino & Frankie Wetzel (Cambria Promotions).
Matchmaker: Harold Moore.
Attendance: 2000, $20,000 (est.).
Judges: Adalaide Tyndale, Al Morris & Ozzie Sadler.
Timekeeper: J.P. Mina.
Announcer: Hank Kropinski.
(3-27-87)

J.R. JOWETT

NEW YORK

▶**NEW YORK CITY—Felt Forum**—Chris Reid, 174, Little Silver, N.J., the celebrated "Shamrock Express" ticket seller, arrived with a retinue of Irish bagpipers and TKO'd Ian Mattis, 175, Jamaica, Queens, N.Y., at 2:30 of Round Six in a scheduled 10. Reid is 17-0-1 with 16 kayoes. Mattis is 11-3 with eight knockouts. John LoBianco, referee.

Renaldo Snipes, 218, Yonkers, N.Y., climbed off the canvas in the first to wear down Melvin Epps, 190, Brooklyn, and score a TKO at 1:14 of the fifth round in their scheduled 10. Snipes is 27-6-1 with 14 kayoes. Epps is 14-14-1 with three knockouts. Johnny Colan, referee.

Kevin (ET) Moley, 161, Selden, N.Y., TKO'd Derrick Earvin, 159, Birmingham, Ala., at 2:07 of the ninth round in a scheduled 10-frame brawl. Earvin, floored in the eighth, went down from a right uppercut in the last session before referee Carl Schroeder stopped the bout. Moley is 28-2 with 24 knockouts. Earvin is 15-6 with seven kayoes.

Pete Ludwinski, 218, Massapequa Park, N.Y., floored and TKO'd Dennis Reilly, 200, Brooklyn, at 1:47 of the first round in a scheduled four. Ludwinski is 1-1. Reilly fell to 4-5 with four kayoes. John LoBianco, referee.

Davey Franco, 132½, Plainfield, N.J., won a majority decision over southpaw Jose Ramon Tirado, 132, New York, N.Y., four. Scoring: Tony Castellano, 2-2; George S. Colon, 3-1 (4-1 in points); Barbara Perez, 3-1. Carl Schroeder, referee.

Another scheduled four between David Weinman, 130, Whitestone, N.Y., and Craig Johnson, Atlantic City, was cancelled.

Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.
Ring Announcer: Ed Derian.
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman
Attendance: 1,841.
(4-9-87)

▶**NEW YORK CITY—Felt Forum**—Former WBC featherweight champion Juan LaPorte, 131, Brooklyn, N.Y., won a unanimous decision over veteran journeyman Rafael Gandarilla, also 131, Harlingen, Texas, 10. LaPorte, who had a good workout, is 28-7 with 14 kayoes. Gandarilla is 54-16-3 with 25 knockouts. Al LoBianco, referee.

Tyrone Jackson, 129, New York, N.Y., TKO'd Floyd Favors, also 129, Washington D.C., at 1:46 of the 10th round in a scheduled 12 to regain the WBC Continental Americas super featherweight title he decided to give up in order to face IBF featherweight champion Ki-Yung Chung last year. Favors proved a tough and stubborn competitor until a right cross dropped him in the fatal round. He got up, but was dropped again, and referee Arthur Mercante stopped the bout. Jackson, known as "The Harlem Butcher," is 24-1 with 19 kayoes. Favors is 9-1-1 with two knockouts. Glenwood (The Real Beast) Brown, 141, Plainfield N.J., one of this season's brightest prospects, TKO'd tough Hilario Mercedes, 142, Bronx, N.Y., who retired following a rough fourth round that saw him slammed on several occasions. Brown is 10-0 with eight kayoes. Mercedes, who gave Brown a real battle in a four-rounder August 28, 1986, is 4-6-1. Nick Drake, referee.

Former New York Golden Gloves champion Mark (The Hammer) Weinman, 152, Whitestone, N.Y., went to 10-0 (seven kayoes) with a TKO over Dennis (Bingo) Dickerson, 151½, Indianapolis, at 1:07 of the fifth round in a scheduled eight. Dickerson is 4-1-1 with one knockout. Nick Drake, referee.

Gino Gelormino, 130½, Levittown, N.Y., won a unanimous decision over Richie Otero, 129½, East New York, N.J., eight. All three judges—Carol Castellano, Bernie Friedkin and Ted Wint—scored the contest 5-3 in rounds. Gelormino, whose only loss has been to Sylvester Kennon in Atlantic City, is 21-1 with 14 kayoes. Otero is a deceptive looking 4-5 with three knockouts.

Debuting Ricardo Cepeda, 120, Bronx, N.Y., TKO'd Walter Gallman, 120½, Newark, N.J., with three knockdowns in 1:22 of the second round in a scheduled four. Gallman is 0-3. Hector Pacheco, referee.

Anthony Manfredonia, 138, Bronx, N.Y., made his pro debut with a majority decision over Colin King, 139½, Jamaica, Queens, N.Y., four. Scoring: Bernie Friedkin, 2-2 (3-2); Danny Whelan, 2-2; Ted Wint, 3-1. Hector Pacheco, referee.

Jorge Collazo, 130, Plainfield, N.J., and Julio Merino, 135½, Newark, N.J., drew, four. Scoring: Carol Castellano, 2-2 (3-2 in points, Merino); Bernie Friedkin, 2-2 (3-3); Ted Wint, 2-2. Merino is 2-2-1. Collazo, down in the first, is 3-0-1. Nick Drake, referee.

Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.
Ring Announcer: Ed Derian.
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman
Attendance: 1,785.
(4-23-87)

HERBERT G. GOLDMAN

▶**STATEN ISLAND—Wagner College**—The big house took its show to the out-reaches of the city so the local fans could feel more at home whooping it up for their own. The numbers were promising (1,167 paid $13,647) and the bouts could, in all fairness, be termed passable at the college's Sutter Gym.

Luckily for Seamus McDonagh, 180, Brooklyn, the judges at this court cut him a break. While the main event might not have been a robbery, it was at least a misdemeanor. Seamus just managed to squeeze out an eight-round draw with comebacking (out for 19 months) Billy D. Saunders, 180, Vineland, NJ.

Billy used lateral movement and a fairly accurate left jab to command most of the action. Occasionally—when his positioning was appropriate—he'd manage to deliver a stinging right hand. This punch opened up a cut over the left eye of McDonagh in Round Four, and enabled Saunders to focus in more clearly on his modus operandi. While Seamus did rather well in the roughhouse department (particularly in the first and last rounds), he didn't quite have the wherewithal to stifle his foes slicker moves. The referee was Joe Santarpia.

Scores: Ruben Garcia had it 4-3-1 for Saunders, while both Billy Graham and Nick Cimino had it 4-4. The Ring card read 5-3 Saunders.

Big Steve Floch had a rather easy time of it by disposing of a rather reluctant Jack Jackson, 222, Atlanta. The 235-pound Staten Islander won by a second-round TKO when Jackson did not answer the bell for Round Three in this scheduled eight.

While there were no knockdowns, Jackson continually shied away from contact, claiming low blows were the culprit. Floch did land more than one below the belt. However, it appeared that Jackson was just as happy to call it a night. Referee; Frank Ucci.

Russell Kain, 178, S.I. won by TKO over Don Crudup, 175, Baltimore. The time was 2:55 of the third; scheduled for six. Crudup had been dropped in Round One, and basically took stick the whole way. The ref; Paul Field.

Southpaw Walter Houston, 152, S.I. won by TKO at 2:37 of the second over Ivan Vasquez, 155, Brooklyn. Vasquez was decked in that round. He beat the count of referee Santarpia, but wobbly legs led to the ref calling it over. It was scheduled for six.

Mikey "Likes It" Duzant, 142, S.I. won a scheduled six by TKO over Stanford "Stretch" Thomas, 140, Phila. The southpaw got his win at the 1:44 mark of Round Two. Thomas was never down but at the point of the stoppage by referee Ucci, he was ready to go.

In a case similar to the main event, a draw was about the best one of the boxers could have gotten. Mike Jefferson, 161, The Bronx, and Domingo Molina, 158, Brooklyn—both lefties—fought to a six-round draw. Jefferson received a 4-2 card from judge Garcia, while Graham had it 3-2-1 Molina. Judge Cimino tabbed it 3-3. *The Ring* agreed with Garcia. Molina, who usually is in a war, seemed tentative and the bout failed to generate any expected fireworks. Ref; Field.

Mike "Honey Bee" Williams, 161, NYU, proved too accurate with his sharp punches as he continually ripped Reno Pasqua, 158, Brooklyn and stopped him at the 2:12 mark of Round Two in this scheduled four. There were no knockdowns and the ref was Field.

In a very energetic four-rounder, Louis Palumbo, 141, Brooklyn, took a unanimous decision over Angel Rodriguez, 139, Hackensack, NJ. The referee was Santarpia.

Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedroza.
Promoter: Madison Square Garden.
Matchmaker: Bobby Goodman.
(04-15-87)

JACK OBERMAYER

PUERTO RICO

▶**ISLA VERDE—Hotel San Juan**—Junior featherweight Julio Gervasio stretched his winning streak to 14-0 with 10 KOs when he scored a second-round knockout over the capable Manuel "Peligro" Miranda.

Gervasio, who hails from Santo Domingo, dropped Miranda in the second round after a rather tame first session. Miranda was up at nine, but referee Falu-Quinones wisely called a halt shortly after when Miranda proved unable to defend himself.

WBA junior featherweight champion Louie Espinoza was present at the encounter and the prospects of a future fight with Gervasio appear to be quite good.

The semifinal 10 saw undefeated Lou Duva prospect John John Molina win by virtue of a 10-round KO over Victor Aponte. Molina appeared to be on the road to an earlier knockout, but

he suffered a hand injury in the sixth round and had to fight the rest of the way with just his left. Still, Aponte was in dire trouble in the 10th, forcing referee Wally Schmidt to call a halt to the one-sided encounter.

Another 10 saw junior middleweight Danny Garcia score a one-round KO over Chi Chi Santana.

In other prelims, Tomas Rodriguez, 140, had no trouble scoring a four-round knockout over USA import Marvin Richardson.

In a sixer, junior featherweight Angel Vargas outpointed Manuel Almezquita.
(3-19-87)

▶**SAN JUAN—Carib Hilton Hotel**—Roverto Rivera, 126-pound FECARBOX champion, added the vacant Continental Latin-American title to his register with a 12-round win over Dominican Alberto Reyes.

Santos Cardona was supposed to go in against Ivan Montalvo for the Puerto Rican junior welter title but Dr. Amaury Capella refused to sanction the bout after discovering a cardiac condition in Montalvo. Last-minute sub Miguel Valero didn't fare too well, suffering a second-round knockout against the capable Cardona.

Junior featherweight Mario Cordero scored a two-round KO over Teo Pizzarro.

Joey Borrero, 107, outpointed Miguel Santos in four.

Milton Rodriguez, 140, knocked out Jose Luis Garcia, 139, in three.

Raul Rivera, 140, outpointed Gabriel Chevere, 141, in four.

Promoter: Ariques Sports Productions.
(3-22-87)

▶**SAN JUAN—Caribe Hilton Hotel**—Jose Vidal Concepcion of Santo Domingo scored an eight-round TKO over local Angel L. Garcia in a scheduled 12-round bout for the FECARBOX junior lightweight title.

Vidal Concepcion, who improved his record to 24-4, was the aggressor throughout, while Garcia appeared to be overly cautious, failing to take even one round in a listless performance. A cut eye forced referee Falu-Quinones to call a halt to this dull bout.

In the semifinal 10, Kenny Stiles had too much on the ball for local Reyes Escalera, scoring a four-round KO in a junior middleweight encounter. Stiles is gunning for a match with Carlos Santos.

Former top lightweight contender Sammy Fuentes scored an easy one-round KO over unknown Jerome Spotville. This was Fuentes' first win after three successive losses stateside.

After being out of action more than a year, local heavyweight Dennis Jackson, a Muhammad Ali lookalike, scored an unimpressive, fifth-round KO over Lorenzo Boyd.
(4-18-87)

MARIO RIVERA MARTINO

TENNESSEE

▶**MEMPHIS—Omni-Daisy Theatre**—Memphian Knox Brown, 159, had an off night, dropping a 10-round decision to St. Louis' Jake Torrence, 164.

Torrence got off to a lead, scoring with left-right combinations. Brown, appearing lethargic from the start, had trouble adapting to Torrence's punch and hold style.

The scoring went 99-95, 96-93 and 97-96, all for Torrence.

Covington's Chuck Glover, 144, won a six-round decision over St. Louis' Lamont Buchanan, 139¾, the judges scoring 57-56, 58-55 and 58-57 for Glover, who improved his record to 15-1.

A scheduled four-rounder lasted just 2:30 when Memphian Grge Dickson, 151¾, stopped Greenville, Mississippi's Skeet McDavis.

Robert Richardson of Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, stopped Covington's Ronald Staford in 2:37. Richardson weighed 184 for the scheduled six, Staford, 178.

Covington's Tommy Parks, 135, pounded out a four-round decision over St. Louis' Maurice Baker, 133.

St. Louis' L.C. Robbinson, 158, scored a four-round decision over Covington's Tyrone Meux, 154.

Promoter: Mid South Boxing, Inc.
Matchmaker: Red Fortner.
Announcer: Sleepy Rutherford.
Judges: Gilbert Beam, James Perkins, Haywood Watts, Jim Harbert, Alex McCollum and Mark Atkinson.
Referees: Jim Kidd, Irving Tucker and Sam Garland.
Timekeeper: Ron Cardoni.
Physician: Dr. Jeff Hooper.
Attendance: 600 (est.).
(4-7-87)

MICHAEL GLENN

TEXAS

▶**SAN ANTONIO—Joe Freeman Coliseum**—In contrast to the extreme cool temperature outside, it was hot as a firecracker inside with the Alamo City fight fans witnessing one of the best matches here in recent history as NABF super bantamweight titleholder Daniel Zaragoza successfully defended his crown against No. 1 contender and local favorite Aaron Lopez.

Zaragoza, 122, captured a 12-round, unanimous decision and the respect of several thousand patrons in attendance.

The Mexican southpaw, who formerly wore a world title belt at bantamweight, was making his second trip to San Antonio. In the first, he used relentless pressure and a good left hook to score a seven-around knockout of then-NABF titleholder Mike Ayala. Zaragoza reasoned the same formula would produce a similar result against Lopez.

Wrong. Lopez, 121½, saw to it that this assembly would remain at least 12 rounds before dismissal.

The action started fast in Round One, with each vainly trying to earn the other's respect. Lopez fired at will at the head of Zaragoza, whose mobility rewarded him with not having to absorb too many early bombs.

Zaragoza rose from his stool 20 seconds early going into Round Four, eyeballing his prey from across the ring with hardball intensity, hoping to gain a mental edge to accompany him through the round. Lopez would have no part of that, meeting his foe in center ring for three minutes of pure slugfest.

Lopez rocked Zaragoza in the fifth with crunching hooks, but the experienced Zaragoza was able to escape the danger and turned the round to his favor by finishing strong, something he seemed able to do in every round.

In Round Nine, Lopez opened a cut above Zaragoza's right eye, and it bled profusely the remainder of the fight. Working on the cut, Lopez scored with good jabs and snappy rights. Zaragoza countered well, thwarting Lopez' attempts to take control.

The only knockdown occurred in Round 11, with Lopez hitting the deck after an onslaught of the Mexican's powerful punches. He beat the count, then stole the last half of the round with a determined body attack.

The final round was the fastest of the fight, with neither willing to back up. Immediately following the bell, literally hundreds of coins rained into the ring.

Judges Bob Martin and David McCullough scored 117-111 for Zaragoza, with Roy Ovalle calling it 117-112. *The Ring* scored 115-112 for Zaragoza, who improved his record to 31-4 with 19 knockouts. Lopez is 24-3 with 18 KOs.

Alfred "Mr. Knockout" Rangel of San Antonio chased Hector Cortez for 10 uneventful rounds, unanimously outpointing the journeyman world traveler from Los Angeles. Cortez, 126 ½, stepped in for Raul Lopez who, being a world traveler himself, got on the wrong plane and ended up in Mexico City. Rangel improved to 13-2 with eight KOs as all three judges scored 100-90.

In a surprisingly good matchup, Houston's Raphe Sims forced the early retirement of Delio "Baby Red" Palacios by opening a sizeable gash around Palacios' mouth. Unable to come out for the sixth round of the scheduled eight, Palacios, of Benavides,, suffered yet another setback in his rollercoaster career. Sims, 132½, is 21-3 with 14 knockouts, while Palacios, 132, still a genuine threat to any junior lightweight, dips to 24-3 with 10 KOs.

Laredo's Homero Aguilar, 117, outpointed Mexico City's Jorge Samano, 118½, over six rounds of solid boxing. Aguilar had Samano down twice but couldn't finish him off as Samano backpedaled and fought on wobbly legs until the final bell. Aguilar, managed by Dave Gorman, looked impressive raising his record to 8-0 with six KOs.

Austin's Johnny Casas, 136½, made it look easy as he mauled his way to a two-round TKO over Del Rio's Raul Sanchez, 138, in a slated four. Time: 1:03.

Promoter: Alamo Attractions.
Matchmaker: Mario Hernandez.
Referees: Dick Cole and Roy Ovalle
Timekeepers: Bill Gavin and Joe Masterpool
Physician: Dr. Ernesto Garza.
Announcer: Rudy Gonzales.
Attendance: 3,200.
(4-3-87)

BILL BOLLING

EUROPE

DENMARK

▶**COPENHAGEN**—Sweden's Anders Eklund regained the European heavyweight title when he knocked out veteran champion Alfredo Evangelista of Spain.

The towering, 239-pound Eklund won five of the first six rounds when Evangelista, 228, tried to rally in Round Seven. But Evangelista's attack also meant the end for him as Eklund suddenly stopped him in his tracks with a terrific right hand.

Evangelista, who challenged Muhammad Ali for the world title in 1977, was caught on the ropes and taking a beating when referee Henk Mayers of Holland got in between the two and started to count. The delayed effect of the punches got to Evangelista, who fell heavily and was unable to rise for two minutes.

The 29-year-old Eklund improved his record to 16-3-1.

European lightweight champion Gert Bo Jacobsen of Denmark won the newly established WBC junior lightweight title for boxers not ranked among the top 10, stopping Colombia's Felipe Julio in five. Julio, based in Florida, was a substitute for Canadian champion Remo DiCarlo.

Jacobsen, 135, methodically outboxed Julio, 132½, flooring him in Round Four and cutting him in the next session. The cut provided a good excuse for Italian referee Giuseppe Ferrari to take Julio out of the fight.

Jacobsen remained perfect at 21-0.

An eight-rounder saw Danish-based Turk Eyup Can win a close, but unanimous decision over French flyweight champion Alain Limarola. Each weighed 118.

Denmark's Racheed Lawal, 134½, dominated most of his fight against French lightweight champion Jose Maillot, 135, to win a unanimous eight-round decision.

Norway's Magne Havnaa, 195, stopped England's Stewart Lithgow, 187½, in five, three standing-eight counts in the final round forcing the intervention.

Denmark's Lars Lund Jensen, 128½, took a close, but unanimous six-round decision over France's Farid Benderjeb, 129.

Promoter: Mogens Palle.
Attendance: 4,000.
(3-28-87)

ROGER SODERBERG

GERMANY

▶**DUSSELDORF—Phillips Hall**—Alfonso Redondo became the first Spaniard to win the European welterweight crown, stopping German southpaw Jose Varela in 10 rounds.

The 25-year-old Redondo was making his second bid for a European crown, having failed last year in a shot at Said Skouma's light middleweight title.

Varela, born in Spain but now a German citizen, was making the first defense of the crown he won stopping Frenchman Brahim Messaoudi almost six months ago. Deterioration from ring rust and inactivity was evident. Varela said he would end it in five rounds and almost everyone felt sure Varela would send the invader winging right back to Spain. Redondo did return home, but took the crown with him, having destroyed the lion in his own den.

Varela's handsome face slowly became disfigured with discoloration and a cut under and above the left eye and a gash on his lip required stitching.

It was a tough battle, a fight that had it all, sheer ferocity, explosive hitting, gameness and fury. Redondo's desire for victory, his able defense and his well-prepared attacks won him the title, leaving the cupboard bare in Germany. His determination and strength, both physical and mental, was just too much for the champion who was riding a 25-bout win streak with 21 ending inside the distance.

In the ninth round, strange territory for Varela who had only once gone 10 rounds, outscoring Tony Habermayer for the domestic title, a left-right combination introduced the champion to the canvas. He took a nine count, and the bell interrupted Redondo's assault.

The end came as a surprise, trainer Otavio Tazzi retiring his man in the 10th although Varela was fighting back both savagely and furiously. In fact, at the end of nine, two officials had it all square with Redondo in front by a point on the third card. However, it was noticeable that the champion did not protest significantly against the action of his cornermen.

The knockout was the 25th for Redondo, whose record stands 38-9. Varela's defeat leaves Germany without a European champion, which does not help this dull and dreary age in the history of the roped arena here.

Attendance: 2,500.
Promoter: Wilfried Sauerland.
Matchmaker: Ebby Thust.
EBU Officials: Franz Mary, Andre Ducrocqu and Emilio Loew.
German Officials: Kurt Stroer, Arthru Ellensohn and Norbert Krosch.
Physicians: Dr. Bruno Holik and Walter Wagner.
(4-4-87)

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6. Donovan Ruddock (Canada)
7. Proud Kilimanjaro (Zimbabwe)
8. Tony Fuliangi (Tonga)
9. Funso Banjo (Great Britain)
10. Dave Garside (Great Britain)

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Champion
Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
1. John Odhiambo (Uganda)
2. Bashiru Ali (Nigeria)
3. Sammy Reeson (Great Britain)
4. Kevin Wagstaff (Australia)
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6. Dave Russell (Australia)
7. Roy Smith (Great Britain)
8. Andy Straughn (Great Britain)
9. Cedric Parsons (Canada)
10. Stewart Lithgo (Great Britain)

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Champion
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1. Dennis Andries (Great Britain)
2. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
3. Uriah Grant (Jamaica)
4. Tom Collins (Great Britain)
5. Willie Featherstone (Canada)
6. Enoch Chama (Zambia)
7. Guy Waters (Australia)
8. Gary Hubble (Australia)
9. Yawe Davis (Uganda)
10. John Moody (Great Britain)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Tony Sibson (Great Britain)
1. Herol Graham (Great Britain)
2. Michael Olajide (Canada)
3. Brian Anderson (Great Britain)
4. Prince Rodney (Great Britain)
5. Errol Christie (Great Britain)
6. Mark Janssen (Australia)
7. Brian Muller (Guyana)
8. Imaru Sanda (Guyana)
9. Hunter Clay (Nigeria)
10. Tony Burke (Great Britain)

LIGHT MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Lloyd Hibbert (Great Britain)
1. John Mugabi (Uganda)
2. Mike McCallum (Jamaica)
3. Matthew Hilton (Canada)
4. Chris Pyatt (Great Britain)
5. Joe Nitiva (Fiji)
6. Steve Renwick (Australia)
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8. David Noel (Trinidad)
9. Troy Waters (Australia)
10. Mick Courtney (Great Britain)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Championships
Vacant
1. Lloyd Honeyghan (Great Britain)
2. Kirkland Laing (Great Britain)
3. Sylvester Mittee (Great Britain)
4. Brian Janssen (Australia)
5. John Munduga (Uganda)
6. Judas Clottey (Ghana)
7. Rocky Kelly (Great Britain)
8. Tony Brown (Great Britain)
9. Kostas Petrou (Great Britain)
10. Charles Kwokolo (Nigeria)

LIGHT WELTERWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Terry Marsh (Great Britain)
2. Wilf Gentzen (Australia)
3. Pat Leglise (Australia)
4. Laurie Mann (Canada)
5. Lloyd Christie (Great Britain)
6. Jamie Ollenberger (Canada)
7. Tony Laing (Great Britain)
8. Tony McKenzie (Great Britain)
9. Obisia Nwankpa (Nigeria)
10. Barrington Cambridge (Guyana)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Mo Hussein (Great Britain)
1. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (Great Britain)
2. Terrence Alli (Guyana)
3. Langton Tinago (Zimbabwe)
4. Dale Artango (Australia)
5. Lester Ellis (Australia)
6. Remo DiCarlo (Canada)
7. Tony Willis (Great Britain)
8. Graeme Brooke (Australia)
9. Sam Ago Kotey (Ghana)
10. Pat Cowdell (Great Britain)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Sam Akromah (Ghana)
1. Barry Michael (Australia)
2. John Sichula (Zambia)
3. Najib Daho (Great Britain)
4. Jim McDonnell (Great Britain)
5. Tony Miller (Australia)
6. John Doherty (Great Britain)
7. Shane Knox (Australia)
8. Patrick Ford (Guyana)
9. Hakeen Ali (Nigeria)
10. Floyd Havard (Great Britain)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
1. Barry McGuigan (Great Britain)
2. Azumah Nelson (Ghana)
3. Modest Napunyi (Kenya)
4. Robert Dickie (Great Britain)
5. Tony Pep (Canada)
6. John Farrell (Great Britain)
7. Oscar Nkhatu (Zambia)
8. Peter Harris (Great Britain)
9. John Feeney (Great Britain)
10. Tony Brown (Great Britain)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Ray Minus (Bahamas)
1. Jeff Fenech (Australia)
2. Mike Parris (Guyana)
3. Paul Ferreri (Australia)
4. Francis Musankabala (Zambia)
5. Billy Hardy (Great Britain)
6. Chris (Ash) Kpakkpo (Ghana)
7. John Hyland (Great Britain)
8. Joe Orewa (Nigeria)
9. Keith Wallace (Great Britain)
10. Brian Holmes (Great Britain)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Richard Clarke (Jamaica)
1. Duke McKenzie (Great Britain)
2. Nana Yaw Konadu (Guyana)
3. Steve Muchoki (Kenya)
4. Junior Thompson (Australia)
5. Wayne Mulholland (Australia)
6. Dave McAuley (Great Britain)
7. James Njorge (Kenya)
8. Albert Musankabala (Zambia)
9. Peter Mitrevski (Australia)
10. Joe Kelly (Great Britain)

UNITED KINGDOM

▶**CROYDON—Fairfield Halls**—Lloyd Christie, brother of Errol, stopped champion Tony McKenzie to win the British light-welter title, referee Larry O'Connell intervening at 2:55 of Round Three of the scheduled 12 with McKenzie on the ropes and under pressure.

Christie weighed 139½, McKenzie 138¾.

Basildon's Terry Marsh, 141¼, beat American David Taylor, 140¼, referee Dave Parrish calling a halt at 2:59 of Round Two of the scheduled 10 when Taylor was cut near the left eye.

Chris Blake of Croydon stopped substitute Robert Harkin of Helensburgh when Parris intervened at 2:54 of Round Three with Harkin under pressure. Each weighed 142 for the scheduled eight.

Staying unbeaten, Sean Murphy, 121, stopped Keith Ward, 123, at the end of Round Four, Ward retiring after being floored and cut by the right eye.

Another to retain his undefeated record was Kilburn's Tommy Shiels, 153, who KO'd Newport's Gary Pemberton, 154, in 2:30, the finisher being a left to the body. The bout was scheduled for six.

West Ham debutant Nigel Benn, 161¼, stopped South Shields' Graeme Ahmed, 160½, O'Connell stopping the scheduled eight at 1:10 of Round Two after Ahmed had been down twice.

Byron Pullen, 174½, didn't lose a round in outpointing Cardiff's Winston Burnett, 174¼, referee Reg Thompson scoring 60-57½ after six twos. Burnett was floored in Round Four.

(1-28-87)

▶**BATLEY—Frontier Club**—Bradford's John Doherty, 129½, narrowly outpointed Glasgow's Dave Savage, 129, referee Sid Nathan scoring 98½-98 after 10. Doherty is the former British super featherweight champion, while Savage holds the Scottish crown.

Rochdale's Darren Connellan, 137, scored a narrow, eight-round points win over Yeadon's previously unbeaten Kevin Spratt, 135½. The score: 78½-78.

Tony Connellan, 141, fought an eight-round draw with Ronnie Campbell, 140½.

Barnsley's David Ingram, 122, remained unbeaten with a 59½-58 decsion over Manchester's Gerry McBride in six.

Sheffield's Lamby Kahani, 129, reversed a previous loss with a fifth-round stoppage of Skipton's Andrew Steadman, 128½. Referee Mickey Vann intervened at the 38-second mark with the previously unbeaten Steadman under pressure.

(2-10-87)

▶**WOLVERHAMPTON—Park Hall**—Birmingham's Wally Swift stopped Granville Allen of Wednesbury, referee Jim Pridding calling a halt at 1:50 of Round Four of the scheduled eight with Allen under pressure. Each weighed 149.

Wednesbury's Mark Hill, 155, scored a six-round decision over Birmingham's Dean Murray.

Middleweight Paul Murray of Birmingham avenged a previous loss, outpointing Chris Walker, referee John Keane scoring 39½-39 after four twos.

Wales debutant Robert Smyth, 133, stopped Oxford's Ken Whorton, 134, at the end of Round Four in a scheduled six twos. Whorton was down three times.

(2-10-87)

▶**GLOUCESTER—Hatherley Manor Hotel**—Gloucester's Mark Purcell, 143¼, outpointed Welshman Neil Haddock, 143, referee Denzil Lewis scoring 59½-59 after six twos. Haddock was decked in Round Three.

Swansea's John Davies, 154, beat Gloucester's Johnny Stone, 160¾, Lewis scoring 59½-58½ after six twos.

Dagenham's Mark Bates, 133¼, didn't lose a round against Swansea's Geoff Sillitoe, 129¾. Lewis scored the six twos, 60-58½.

(2-16-87)

▶**COVENTRY—Godiva Sporting Club**—Jedborough's Doug Young, 111, outpointed Birmingham's Gus Menzies, 186, referee Jim Pridding casting a narrow 79-78½ after eight twos.

Glasgow's John Townsley, 137, KO'd Walsall's Mickey Vern, 140, with a right hook at 54 seconds of Round Five of a scheduled six twos.

Ian Holston of Eltham outpointed Brian Murphy of Cambuslang, 59½-58½ after six twos. Each weighed 139.

Dennis Hogan, 178, outpointed Steve Conway, 174, 59-58½ over six twos.

(2-18-87)

▶**GLASGOW—St. Andrews Sporting Club**—Croy's Pat Clinton, 115, made it nine straight by outpointing sub Des Gargano of Manchester, referee Billy Rafferty indicating Clinton won every one of the six rounds, 60-57.

Nottingham's Ray Newby, 136, was handicapped by an injury to his left eye in Round Two, but did well to knock out Cardiff's Mervya Bennett, 134, in the eighth and final round.

Nottingham's Nigel Senior, 129½, outpointed Doncaster's Kevin Plant, 140½, Mullen scoring 59-58½ after six twos.

(2-16-87)

▶**LONDON—National Sporting Club**—Hastings' Paul Huggins, 130½, outpointed former British bantamweight champion John Feeney of Hartlepool, referee Roy Francis scoring 78½-78 after eight. The decision was not greeted warmly by the corner of Feeney, who weighed 127½.

Birmingham's Martin Kielty, 160, stopped Rhyl's Rocky Feliciello, 154, referee Jack Snipe intervening at 1:23 of the opening round of the scheduled eight twos after Feliciello had been down.

Woodham Ferrers' Jim Beckett, 150½, outpointed London debutant Dusty Miller, 149½, Snipe casting a 59-58½ after six twos.

Birmingham's Paul Murray, 165½, outpointed Penge debutant Chris Galloway, 180, Francis scoring 59½-58½ after six twos.

(2-16-87)

▶**ALFRETON—Leisure Centre**—Roy Smith of Nottingham became the British cruiserweight champion, taking the crown from Hitchin's Andy Straughn on a 12-round decision.

Referee Mickey Vann scored 118½-116½. Each weighed 188½.

Unbeaten Kilburn welterweight Tommy Shiels overcame a cut right eye to stop Nottingham's Del Bryan, referee Brian Arnott stepping in at 15 seconds of Round Two of the scheduled six after Bryan had been down three times.

Chesterfield's Chris Devine, 194, made light of his two stones disadvantage by outpointing Doncaster's Mick Gordon, 221, referee John Keane scoring the eight twos 80-77.

Alfreton's John Ashton, 154½, fought a six-round draw with Telford's Johnny Elliott, 159½.

A scheduled six twos ended in just 1:20, Sheffield's Paul Burton, 155½, knocking out Alfreton's Frank Graham, 158.

Alfreton's Nicky Vardy, 175, outpointed Derby's Ian Whitehead, 173¼, over six twos, 59½-58. The two had split two previous bouts.

(2-17-87)

▶**ST. HELENS—Sutton Sports Centre**—Sunderland's Billy Hardy, 116½, won the British bantamweight title with a TKO over champion Ray Gilbody, 118, at 37 seconds into Round Three.

Gilbody, of Warringtom, had been down four times before referee Adrian Morgan rescued him. A couple of days later, Gilbody announced his retirement.

Kettering's Shane Porter, 120, outpointed St. Helens' Albert Parr, 118, referee Harry Warner scoring 59-58½ after six.

Kidderminster's Geoff Calder, 148, scored a six-round decision over St. Helens' Steve Hogg, 146, referee Keith Gardner casting a 59-58½ vote.

A scheduled six ended at 1:35 of Round Two with Wednesbury's Mark Hill, 153, scoring a TKO over St. Helens' Dave Binstead, 155.

Rhyl's John Drummond, 127, scored a 59-58, six-round nod over Birmingham's Billy Cawley, 127½. The two had split two previous matches.

Gary Stretch, 153¾, dropped Sammy Sampson, 154, twice and stopped him 15 seconds before the end of the second round.

(2-19-87)

▶**LONDON—London West Hotel**—Rocky Kelly, 152, outpointed Liverpool's Franki Moro, 154, referee Roy Francis carding 79½-77½ after eight.

Harlow's Trevor Smith, 147½, outpointed Kelvin Mortimer, 144½, referee Nick White scoring the eight twos 79-77½.

Northolt's Andy Till, 159¾, outpointed Preston's Ian Bayliss, 157¾, referee White scoring 60-57½ after six twos.

Bushey's B.F. Williams, 138¼, stopped Christchurch debutant Dave Nash, 137¼, at 59 seconds of Round Three after Nash had been floored four times.

Former British and European light-middleweight champion Jimmy Cable rallied, but too late to avoid an eight-round loss to Birmingham's Kid Milo, 156. Francis scored 79-78.

Anfield Plains's Glenn McCrory, 193, scored an eight round, 79-77½ decision over Barry Ellis, 207.

(2-18-87)

▶**PETERSBOROUGH—Wirrina Stadium**—Southern Area light-welter champ Lennie Gloster needed only 2:57 of a scheduled eight to stop Jeff Decker of South Shields. Both weighed under 148.

A scheduled six twos also ended early when Peterborough's

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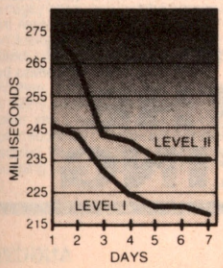

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Dave Pierre, 139, halted Birmingham's Tony Whitehouse in just 1:07.

Peterborough's Gary Barron, 135½, made a fine debut, not losing a round against Hornchurch's Tim O'Keefe, 138. Referee Reg Thompson scored the six twos 60-57½.

Peterborough's Gary DeRoux, 128, outpointed Luton's Gary King, 124½, Thompson scoring the six twos 59½-58.

Morley's Richard Wagstaff, 150½, outpointed Peterborough's Nigel Fairbairn, 154½, referee Mike Jacobs scoring 59-58 after six twos. Fairbairn went down in the fifth.

Manchester's Danny Lawford, 184, outpointed Wisbech's Gypsy George Carman, 190, Jacobs scoring 59-58 after six twos.
(2-19-87)

▶**MAIDENHEAD—Magnet Leisure Centre**—Brentford's T.P. Jenkins, 167, outpointed Cardiff's Winston Burnett, 173, referee Roland Dakin scoring 80-76 after eight twos.

Southall's Dennis O'Brien, 158, outpointed Alfreton's Seamus Casey, 160, Dakin scoring 79-78 after eight twos.

Southampton's Paul Taylor, 131, didn't lose a round against Reading's Richard Dimmock, 130½, over six twos.

Maidenhead's Andy Sinclair, 140, outpointed Newport's Carl Merrett, 141½, referee Nick White scoring 59½-58 after six twos.

Maidenhead's Roy Horne, 148, didn't lose a round in outpointing Oliver Henry, 145, White's card showing 60-57½ after six twos. Henry, of Kings Lynn, was down in Round Two.

In a battle of 160-pound debutants, Aylesbury's Barry Bennett outpointed Paul Wesley 59-58 after six twos.
(2-20-87)

▶**BRADFORD—Yorkshire Executive Sporting Club**—Chorley's Carl Crook, 135, won the vacant Central Area lightweight title by outpointing Mohammed Lovelock, 134, 99½-97 after 10. In a previous meeting, Lovelock had been KO'd in five.

Chorley's Nigel Crook, 119, scored a six-round decision over Nottingham's Mitchell King, 59½-59.

Hull's Chris Clarkson, 119½, won a four-rounder over Doncaster's Dave Mallary, 119, the score reading 40-38½.
(2-23-87)

▶**LONDON—York Hall**—Kirkby's Paul Hodkinson, 129, made it six straight by stopping Frenchman Kamel Djadda, 128¾, referee Sid Nathan intervening at the end of Round Four of the scheduled eight when Djadda suffered a cut left eye. Djadda was a sub, but put up a good scrap.

Darren Dyer, 149¼, KO'd Ian "Kid" Murray, 150½, at 1:42 of Round Three of a scheduled six.

Belfast's Eamonn McAuley, 131¾, didn't lose a round in taking a six-round decision over Telford's George Jones, 132.

Hackney's Billy Ruzgar, making a comeback after a two-year layoff, KO'd Bournemouth's Mark Champney, 126½, at 54 seconds of Round Two of a scheduled six. Ruzgar weighed 126.

Another scheduled six ended early when Merthyr's Roy Williams, 120, KO'd Hertford's Wally Jarvis, 120½, with a right hand at 41 seconds of the third.

Dagenham's Tim O'Keefe, 136¼, knocked down Birmingham's Andrew Pybus, 137, in the first and won every one of the four two-minute rounds.
(2-26-87)

▶**ILFORD—Palais**—A scheduled eight ended in just 37 seconds when Belfast's Noel Magee, 175½, floored Chelmsford's Lennie Howard, 177, to remain unbeaten in 13 bouts.

Woodham Ferrers' Andy Cox, 146½, didn't lose a round in outpointing Brighton's Mark Simpson, 147, over eight twos.

A scheduled six twos went just 57 seconds as Camberwell's Gary McConnell, 213, KO'd Bradford's Steve Garber, 216, with a left hook.

Dagenham's Gary Steff, 143½, won all six, two-minute rounds against Swindon's Gary Cass, 145.

Ilford's Michael Aubrey, 176½, outpointed Cardiff's Winston Burnett, 173, referee Larry O'Connell scoring the six twos 59-58½.

Dangenham's Billy Simms, 178½, made a successful debut by stopping Southampton's Aubrey Mentis, 174½, at 1:03 of Round Three of a scheduled six.
(2-24-87)

▶**NOTTINGHAM—Great International Sporting Club**—Chorley's Peter Crook, 134, didn't lose a round in scoring an eight-round decision over Kirkby's Tommy Farrell, 135.

Sheffield's Lambi Kahani, 127, outpointed Nottingham's Mitchell King, 125, over six twos.

Jim Conly of Bradford stopped Nottingham's Johnny Hooks at 1:58 of Round Two of a scheduled six twos after Hooks had been down twice. Each weighed 146.

Hull's Chris Clarkson, 119, floored Doncaster's Dave Mallaby, 121, in the first, then stopped him at 36 seconds of Round Two of a scheduled six twos.
(3-2-87)

▶**BIRMINGHAM—Arden Sporting Club**—A scheduled six twos ended at 1:40 of Round Four when St. Helens' Ian Chantler, 155, stopped Alfreton's John Ashton, 156.

Bournemouth's Frankie Lake, 139½, outpointed Nottingham's Gerry Beard, 141, over eight twos. Beard was down in the sixth.

Nottingham's Mark Howells, 149, pitched a shutout over Wolverhampton's Cecil Branch, 147, over six twos.

Liverpool's Ray Thomas, 172½, scored a one-point win over Grimsby's Joe Frater, 176½, after six twos.
(3-2-87)

▶**LONDON—Lewisham Concert Hall**—Gloucester's Johnny Williamson, 153, scored his fifth straight knockout, flooring Blackfriars' Winston Wray, 154, twice before stopping him at 2:22 of the second of a scheduled eight.

Battersea's Andrew Furlong, 137, and Eltham's Mark Dinadge, 138, battled to a stalemate over eight twos.

Paddington's Surge Fame, 175, spoiled the debut of France's Mamdoo N'Didye, 187, winning a decision over six twos.

Brixton's George Gray, 166, outpointed Darren Burford, 165½, referee Roland Dakin scoring 59-58½ after six twos.

Paul Gadney of Woolwich won a six-round nod over Jess Rumdan of Plymouth. Rumdan injured his right hand in the second and went down in the fifth, claiming a low blow. Each weighed 135.

Bellingham's Wayne Weeks, 133, outpointed Plymouth's Mike Russell, 137, over six twos.

This was the last card Dakin would referee, having reached compulsory retirement age. He has been one of Britain's finest referees for many years, and it is hoped he will stay in the game in an advisory or administrative capacity.
(3-2-87)

▶**LONDON—Latchmere Leisure Centre**—A scheduled eight twos concluded in just 1:15 when Tooting's Andy Wright, 164½, flattened Alfreton's Nick Vardy, 169, with a left hook to the jaw.

Vardy went down face first, and referee Sid Nathan, realizing he could be badly hurt, beckoned Vardy's seconds rather than administer a count.

Down twice, Bermondsey's Mark Fairman, 113½, confirmed a previous win by outpointing Welshman Kerry Webber over eight twos.

Welshman Kevin Hayde scored a six-round decision over John Nanton of Bermondsey. Nanton was down twice and Hayde suffered a cut right eye in the final round. Each weighed 150.

Charlton's Nicky Thorne, 162, was cut by both eyes but outpointed Birmingham's Paul Murray, 164, after six twos.

Kilburn's Tony Graham, 133½, scored a six-round nod over Welshman Andy DeAbreu, 132.

Penge's Chris Galloway, 172, floored Old Kent Road's Tommy Beckett, 168, twice and stopped him at 1:30 of Round Three of a scheduled six twos.
(2-24-87)

▶**HARTLEPOOL—Borough Hall**—Hartlepool's Noel Quarless, 222, narrowly outpointed Midlands Area champion Al Malcolm, a 217-pounder from Birmingham, over 10.

Referee Fred Potter scored 99-98½, drawing boos from many who thought Malcolm deserved at least a share.

Doncaster's Robert Armstrong, 156, stopped Darlington's Neil Patterson, 156½, at 1:20 of Round Four of a scheduled eight twos.

Southport's Brian Wareing, 144½, floored Lancaster's Frank Harrington, 148½, three times, and Harrington didn't get up the last trip as the scheduled six twos ended at 2:08 of Round Two.

Sunderland debutant Harry Escott, 131½, stopped Bradford sub Kenny Wals, 138, at 1:07 of the fourth and final round.

Manchester's Carl Gaynor stopped debutant Stephen Winstanley, 130½, at 33 seconds of Round Two when Winstanley was cut by the left eye.
(2-26-87)

▶**GLASGOW—Plaza Ballroom**—Glasgow's Dave McCabe, 144½, didn't lose a round in scoring an eight-round decision over Birmingham's Wally Swift Jr., 148½.

Many said it was the best bout seen in Scotland this year as Swift's right eye was completely shut at the close and McCabe was decked in the third.

Donny Hood, 120, also didn't lose a round, beating Greenock's Danny Lee, 120¼, over eight twos.

Glasgow's Dave Summer, 204, confirmed a previous win by outpointing Doncaster's Mick Cordon, 210. Summer won each of the six, two-minute rounds.

Gary Jacobs, 146½, gained another win for Scotland by knocking out Doncaster's Central Area light-welter champ Gary Williams, 144, at 30 seconds of the seventh of a scheduled eight. Williams was down three times.

Hull's Stuart Carmichael won a six-round decision over Glasgow's John Carlin, 122, referee Arnold Bryson scoring 59-58½.
(2-24-87)

▶**HUDDERSFIELD—Ladbroke Mercury Hotel**—Bradford's Peter Brown, 169, was floored with the final punch of the fight, yet still outpointed Castleford's Dave Owens, 175, referee Mickey Vann scoring 78-77½.

Leeds' Tony Banks fought a six-round draw with Sheffield's Dean Eshelby, 135.

Sheffield's Johnny Nelson, 182, didn't lose a round in outscoring Scotland's Doug Young, 183, over six.

Coventry's Leon Thomas, 163, beat Alfreton's Les Woolis, 166, when Woolis retired with an injured hand at the close of the fourth of a scheduled six. Thomas looked ahead at that stage.
(3-2-87)

▶**GLASGOW—Whitbread Sporting Club**—Irvine's Alex Mullen, 163, survived a cut left eye to score an eight-round verdict over Wandsworth's W.O. Wilson, 160.

Jim Moffat, 134½, scored a six-round nod over London's Ian Hosten, 136½.

Glasgow's Ronnie Carroll, 121, didn't lose a round in outpointing Jamie McBride, 122½, over six.

Grangemouth's Robby Maxwell, 156, won a six-round decision over Alfreton sub Seamus Casey, 154.
(3-2-87)

▶**MIDDLESBOROUGH—Marton Country Club**—Marvin P. Gray, 136, narrowly outpointed Nottingham's Willie Wilson, 137½, referee Fred Potter scoring 79-78½ after eight twos. It was the second time Gray beat Wilson.

Scarborough's Doug Calderwood was down twice but pulled out a six-round draw with Preston's Ian Bayliss. Each weighed 163.

Paul Burke, 135, KO'd Glasgow's Brian Murphy, 139, with a right to the head at 1:01 of Round Two.

Edinburgh's George Baigrie, 137¾, stopped Kendal's Alvin "Gypsy" Finch, 134, at 1:56 of the fourth of a scheduled six twos.
(3-2-87)

▶**LONGFORD—Heathrow Park Hotel**—Harlow's Trevor Smith, 153, remained unbeaten with a first-round knockout of Chesterfield's Mickey Bird, 154.

A left hook by Smith ended the scheduled eight twos in just 1:02.

Burnt Oak's Barry Ellis, 216, scored a six-round decision over Bristol's Patrick Collins, 203.

Bridgewater's John Knight, 125, made a promising debut by outpointing Denzil Goddard, 124, over six.
(3-2-87)

RON OLVER

CENTRAL AMERICA

TRINIDAD

▶**PORT OF SPAIN—Jean Pierre Sports Complex**—A crowd of approximately 3,000 saw Leslie Stewart, *The Ring's* No. 6 light heavyweight contender, score a five-round TKO over West Virginia cruiserweight champion Bobby Thomas.

Stewart wanted a prep for his May 3 rematch with WBA champion Marvin Johnson, but the 179-pound southpaw turned out to be little more than a punching bag. By 2:13 of the fifth, referee George Cumberbatch had become so disgusted with the inept display of the 6-2 Thomas, he called a halt and raised the hand of the 175¾-pound Stewart.

In a 10-round semifinal, Philadelphia's Anthony "Two Gun" Fletcher, 140 ¼, outboxed, outfought and out-classed Trinidad and Tobago's No. 1 junior welterweight contender Joseph "The Beast" Alexander, 142¼.

At 2:28 of the eighth round, Alexander held his groin and complained to referee Hollis Wilson that he had been hit low. Wilson ignored his plea and raised Fletcher's hand.

When the decision went against him, Alexander went after Fletcher.

In an eight-rounder featuring local boxers, Joseph Nelson, 158½, TKO'd Terrance Bannister, 160¾, at 48 seconds of the sixth.

Another scheduled eight between locals had Ashton Wilson, 158½, TKO Eustace Prince, 146, at 1:29 of the fourth.
(3-20-87)

GEORGE C. BECKLES

SOUTH AMERICA

COLOMBIA

▶**MONTERIA**—Local lightweight Migual Aguado scored a 10-round decision over Nelson Miranda.

Featherweight Pedro Mengoza knocked out Felipe Angulo in six.

Bernabe Viloria was disqualified in the eighth round against featherweight Pedro Barrera.
(3-5-87)

▶**CARTAGENA**—Pedro Padilla captured the Colombian junior welterweight championship with an eight-round knockout of Ivan Vanegas.

Bantamweight Miguel Maturana scored a six-round TKO over Rafael Garzon.

Francisco Tejedor stopped Jorge Vergara in the sixth round of a junior flyweight match.

Super flyweight Jairo Martinez outpointed Eric Mauricio Bernal over eight.

Bantamweight Francisco Alverez scored a six-round decision over Jose Salazar.
(3-6-87)

▶**CARTAGENA**—Junior flyweight Agustin "Baby" Garcia scored a 10-round decision over Arnold Velasquez.

Undefeated lightweight Rafael "Dervi" Pineda stopped Arnovic Castro in the fourth.

Barranquilla welterweight Anibal Miranda scored a two-round TKO over Cartagena's Saul Julio.

Dionis Blanco scored a four-round decision over Pablo Padilla.

Bantamweight Luis Mendoza stopped Rafael Martinez in the first.
(3-14-87)

LUIS A. GONZALEZ

READ THE RING

PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

VICTORIA

▶**MELBOURNE—Town Hall**—Former WBA lightweight champion Ernesto Espana of Venezuela had to dig deep into his survival kit in order to stay the distance with Australian Lester Ellis, who formerly held the IBF junior lightweight title.

Espana, 135¼, did all right in the early rounds, but the young Ellis pressured him with accurate and persistent punching and won the 10-round decision, Gus Mercurio scoring 97-94, Cliff Heaver, 96-94, and Bryan Membrey, 99-94.

In a 10-round support, Ken Carter stopped Paul Delosa, 142½, in Round Seven when Delosa suffered a cut eye. Carter, 139¼, was ahead at the finish..

Another 10 saw Peter Bryan, 157, post a unanimous decision over Darwin North, 155.

Newcomer Stan Longinides, 194, had too much on the ball for Fijina Richard Lui, 200¼, halting him in Round Two of a scheduled 10.

(3-13-87)

▶**MELBOURNE—Sports & Entertainment Center**—Sydney's Jeff Fenech, 125½, scored an easy, 12-round points win over Tony Miller, 122½, to take Miller's Australian featherweight title.

Fenech, who relinquished the IBF bantamweight championship recently, decked Miller in Round One and had him almost gone. Dominating throughout, Fenech seemed as if he would stop Miller, but he eased up apparently looking for a strong workout in preparation for his WBC junior featherweight title match against Thailand's Samart Payakaroon.

Fenech, a great fighter, will beat Payakoroon.

Denzil Creed did a good job refereeing, but two of the judges were generous to Miller, Trevor Christian scoring 120-109 and Ed Francis 120-107. Judge Cliff Heaver scored 120-101, which was closer to *The Ring's* score of 120-103.

In an eight-round support, Peter Bryan scored a clear points win over Alex Tui. Each weighed 158.

Another eight had Samoan-born Apollo Sweet (now there's a name for a fighter!) win a split decision over Stan Longinidis. Sweet weighed 186¼, Longinidis, 191½.

Chris Dawe, a rising youngster from Sydney, took a split, eight-round verdict from Nick Hatzil, 145. Dawe weighed 139¼.

In a six-rounder, Craig Trotter, 147, scored a unanimous win over Terry Roberts, 145½.

Promoter: Classic Promotions.

(4-3-87)

QUEENSLAND

▶**BRISBANE—Festival Hall**—Australian welterweight champion Brian Janssen added the vacant Commonwealth crown to his collection with a split and narrow points win over Ghanaian Judas Clottey.

Denzil Creed scored for Clottey, 117-115, but Cyril Cairns, 115-114, and Ed Francis, 116-114, went for Janssen. The crowd hooted the decision, but few kept scorecards and forgot the early rounds in which Janssen built a good lead.

Shane Knox, coming in at a very heavy 137, did not need to be very fit to dispose of Ray Arua, 143½, of Papua, New Guinea. Creed rescued Agua in the third of a scheduled 10.

Percy Israel, 143, used his height and reach advantage to gain a split, eight-round decision over Ken Carter, 141½.

Neil Garland, 122, stopped Brad Finn, 120, in the fifth of a scheduled six, the stoppage coming when Finn was cut over the left eye. Garland was ahead at the time.

Dean Amiott, who boxed previously as Dean Winstanley, scored a split, six-round nod over Jamie Tracey. Amiltt weighed 150, three pounds more than Tracey.

Promoter: Reg Layton.

(4-6-87)

NEW SOUTH WALES

▶**WOOLOOWARE—Cronulla-Sutherland Leagues Club**-Comer Chris Dawe, 135½, gained a unanimous, 10-round decision over NSW state junior lightweight champion Craig Pevy, 134½.

The bout was a good one with the more experienced Pevy proving a cagey boxer against the aggressive, but thinking Dawe. The crowd responded well, providing a large shower of money at the conclusion.

Don Marks carded 98-94, John Thompson scored 98-93 and Des Bloyd called it 97-95.

Alan Whitten, 116¾, was too good for comebacking Dave Carriage, 122¼, halting him in the fourth of a scheduled six.

In another six, Dino Billinghurst, 156½, used his height to advantage in scoring a unanimous win over Joe Taupau, 158¾.

A scheduled four-rounder ended in the third, Darren Mees, 163¼, stopping Garry Gattling, 162.

(3-20-87)

▶**YOUNG—Services & Citizens Club**—Brett Beakin, 153, outpointed much heavier Robbie Hitchenson, 170, in an excellent 10-rounder.

Alf Weymark scored 98-94 and Bernie McMahon and Bruce Price had it 100-91.

Bobby Mastro, 121, stopped Ron Bridge, 118, in six.

Andrew Foster, 216, scored a six-round verdict over Wally Keaster, 190.

Don Pulleine, 170, stopped John Hunt, 164, in four.

(4-21-87)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

▶**ROCKINGHAM—Leisure Inn**—Two six-rounders headlined this bill, Brad Mogeridge, 145½, outpointing Matthew Smith, 145½, and Ricardo Monteleone, 146½. finishing Luke Warner, 146½, in five.

Paul Rush, 136¾, and Greg Read, 127¾, fought to a four-round draw.

Mark "Jacko" Jackson knocked out Tyrone Brown in the third of a heavyweight bout between two footballers.

(3-14-87)

▶**NOTES:** George Barnes was ringside for the Janssen-Clottey fight, which drew only about 3,500 fans. Nearly 32 years ago, Barnes defended his Commonwealth welterweight title against Clottey's father, Attu, at Sydney Stadium. Barnes won a decision over 15 rounds before some 14,000 fans with about 3,000 more fans unable to get in . . . Australian middleweight Paul James traveled to Taebec City, Korea where he dropped a decision to In-Chul Baek March 15 . . . New Zealand, Australian and Australasian junior middleweight champ Steve Renwick fared better, traveling to Wellington, New Zealand for a 10-round decision win over Sugar Joel Sauqaqa March 21.

RAY MITCHELL

NEW ZEALAND

▶**AUCKLAND—Hyatt Kingsgate Centre**—Former New Zealand light heavyweight champion Lance Revill, partaking in his second comeback fight at 192½ pounds, appeared strong and mature in winning an eight-round, unanimous decision over Irish-born Kevin Barry, who weighed 232.

Revill has never looked better, boxing calmly in the first round and reddening the face of Barry. But Barry, who campaigns in Australia, where he is ranked fourth, doggedly pressed the action in the second and it took all of Revill's skills to stay with the visitor. By now, the fans were in an uproar, especially when a heavy right to the jaw sent Barry tottering. Revill was quick to pounce on him, but the tough Irishman withstood the onslaught and was back in the thick of things by round's end.

Each succeeding round was fought at a grueling pace, Reville scoring with his cleaner shots to the head, Barry countering to pile up points. The two slugged non-stop in the seventh, Revill gaining the edge with his straighter punches, and the eighth saw the New Zealander storm Barry, keeping him under severe pressure with several rights to the head.

Experienced Rocky Salanoa, 226, and newcomer August Tanavasa, 225, belted each other with heavy punches, the higher scoring rate and eagerness of Tanavasa gaining him a unanimous decision in the six-rounder.

Pulu Taito, 166½, took a majority, six-round verdict from Tony Renata, 164. Taito was somewhat hesitant in the first three rounds, but stepped up the tempo from the fourth as he started to reach Renata with head blows. A good fifth round was followed by toe-to-toe punching in the sixth as the fans cheered them on.

A unanimous, six-round dedision went to Robert Aumatangi, 178, over Frank Maiava, 176½. Maiava stalked the winner over the first four rounds, seeking to land a heavy punch. But Aumatangi boxed well in retreat. The bout came alive in the last two rounds when Aumatangi stood his ground, electing to fight it out with Maiava.

Penu Rasmussen, 150½, and Albert Ma Chong, 147½, fought heart and soul with stern, heavy punching to the head and body, Rasmussen winning a unanimous decision when the six-rounder ended.

Promoter: John Glozier.

Referees: Eddie Manuela, Johnny Hanks and Ali Afakasi.

Attendance: 1,100.

(3-30-87)

▶**WELLINGTON—Wellington Town Hall**—New Zealand, Australasian and Australian junior middleweight champion Steve Renwick won a unanimous, 10-round decision over Fijian Sugar Joel Sauqaqa at middleweight poundage.

Both fought with determination and punched solidly. Both also suffered cuts, and Sauqaqa was given a standing eight in the fourth thanks to an uppercut by Renwick.

The only other bout on the card saw New Zealand junior middleweight Rocky Aumatangi flatten Fijian Taueka Tui in 65 seconds.

Promoter: Terry Soloman.

Attendance: 400.

(3-21-87)

▶**NOTES:** Aumatangi met Sauqaqa twice in Tahiti in February and March, Aumatangi winning a decision in the first bout, Sauqaqa scoring a four-round KO in the rematch . . . New Zealand heavyweight Fossie Schmidt was stopped in three by Fijian Aisea Nama on the undercard of the first Aumatangi-Sauqaqa match . . . Nama tried again on the undercard of the rematch, facing Mexican cruiserweight Antonio Avalar. Avalar scored a seven-round TKO when Nama injured his hand.

JOHNNY HANKS

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

▶**MDANTSANE**—Mxhosana Jongelanga retained his South African featherweight title with a second-round TKO over Olvin Mthembu.

After a quiet opening round, Jongelanga attacked in the second to overwhelm his challenger, who eventually raised his arms in surrender as he was draped over the ropes.

Junior flyweight contender Odwa Mdleleni knocked out Ndoda "Happy Boy" Mayende in the seventh round.

▶**SPRINGS**—Charles Oosthuizen successfully defended his South African junior middleweight title for the first time with an easy, 11th-round stoppage of Matthias Mbatha.

A disappointing crowd of 300 saw an improved performance from Oosthuizen as he took the fight to the challenger and wore him down until the 11th when the referee stopped the fight.

The promising Aaron completely outclassed Allan Manuel to win on points over six rounds in a welterweight clash.

(3-1-87)

▶**LAUDIAM**—A determined Stanley Mathe completely outclassed the experienced Gaybon Yekiso to win the vacant Transvaal featherweight title by knocking out Yekiso in the sixth round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

(3-8-87)

▶**ZWELITSHA**—Sexon Ngqayimbana retained his Cape junior featherweight crown by stopping Nkosomzi Moss in the sixth of a scheduled 10.

In a six-rounder, Mawuti Lekoro had little difficulty outpointing Welile Hasheni at the junior flyweight limit.

▶**PORT ELIZABETH**—Jacob "Baby Dush" Mazibuko beat Diebusuka Mbaduli on points over eight rounds at the flyweight limit.

(3-7-87)

▶**CAPE TOWN**—Former South African junior lightweight champion Chris Whiteboy, looking bloated and fighting in the welterweight division, scored a six-round points victory against Sindile Xalisa.

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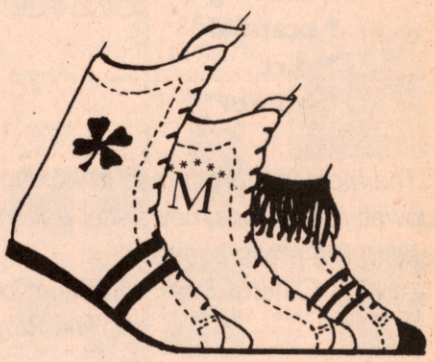

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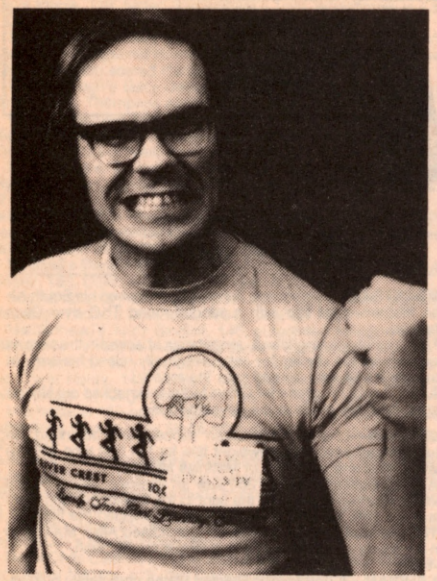

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Mark Brawood, who campaigned in the United States last year, won a close points decision over eight rounds against Philip Lixon.
(3-18-87)

▶**MITENHAGE**—Vuyani Nene retained his South African junior flyweight title when he knocked out Jacob Matlala in the 11th round.

Nene boxed cleverly after being under pressure in the early rounds to eventually outpunch and outbox his very strong opponent.
(3-15-87)

RON JACKSON

ORIENT

JAPAN

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—Nineteen-year-old Kiyoshi Hatanaka, 115, brilliantly chalked up a knockout over defending-champion Tadashi Maruo, 114¾, to win the Japanese junior bantamweight championship.

The end of the scheduled 10-rounder came at 2:14 of the third as the speedy Hatanaka improved his record to 12-0 with eight KOs.

From the start, the taller Hatanaka outjabbed and outsped the crouching champ. In the fatal round, Hatanaka caught Maruo with his relentless combinations, forcing the defending champion to take two standing counts. Hatanaka kept the pressure on with one-twos and left hooks that had Maruo helpless, and referee Ken Morita stepped in to save the loser from further punishment.

The dethroned champion fell to 13-6 with 10 KOs. Hatanaka, six years his junior, had beaten Maruo in a previous July encounter and proved sharper and stronger again.

In a supporting 10, slow, but hard-hitting Yoshiyuki Uchida, the JBC's fourth-ranked junior bantamweight, endured the speedy rallies of southpaw Hiroaki Kanaya to score a knockout at 59 seconds of the eighth round. Uchida, 20-2-1 with 18 KOs, must sharpen his reflexes. Kanaya, a powder-puff puncher with no knockouts, fell to 8-3. Each weighed 115.

The Japanese Commission's top-ranked middleweight, Tetsuya Manaka, took a lopsided, eight-round decision over southpaw Yoichi Isome. Manaka had Isome on the deck twice in the final session, improving his record to 7-1 with five knockouts as Isome fell to 6-5 with four KOs. The cards read 80-73, 79-72 and 79-74. Each weighed 147.

Tomoki Morikawa, 114¾, won a six-round decision over Shinichiro Hiraiwas, 115.

Promoter: World Sports.

Television: TBS TV.
(2-23-87)

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—Japanese flyweight champ Koji Nishikawa lost his title to tall lefty Leopard Tamakuma on a unanimous, 10-round decision.

The scores made the fight seem closer than it was, referee Kazunobu Asao calling it 99-96, judge Masakazu Uchida, 97-96, and judge Kodai Kumazaki, 98-96. *The Ring* card saw the almost onesided affair 99-94.

The 5-8 Tamakuma coped with the much shorter Nishikawa in close and outpunched him with effective right uppercuts from the southpaw stance. Nishikawa tried to stop Tamakuma's mobility with body bombardments, but the challenger blocked the shots with his elbows.

Tamakuma, 17-3 with five KOs, has shown remarkable progress and is a bright prospect. Nishikawa, at 24 one year older than Tamakuma, fell to 16-5-1 with six KOs. Each weighed 111¾.

Jun Hoki, the JBC's 10th-ranked flyweight, made short work of lefty Hirohiko Yabuki, polishing him off in just 38 seconds of the scheduled 10. Hoki's right hook proved the haymaker as he scored his eighth knockout in his 9-3-2 record. The crestfallen Yabuki fell to 8-4-3 with three knockouts. Each weighed 115.

Yasutaka Sakurai, a busy puncher ranked seventh in the flyweight class by the JBC, showed his stamina and vigor, but not technique, in copping a unanimous nod from Koji Ygiu in eight. Each weighed 111¾.

Kengo Fukuda, a very popular teenager, engaged in his first six-rounder, coming off the canvas to dispose of Tomio Shibata at 2:37 of the third. The 122-pound Fukuda has already starred in a movie, but he had better improve his reckless, give-and-take way of fighting if he wants to be a champion. The 19-year-old is 8-1 with seven KOs. Shibata, 121½, is 4-4 with two KOs.

Promoter: Misako and Kokusai Promotions.

Television: Fuji TV.
(2-26-87)

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—The All-Japan Novice King Tournament came to an end with the winners of West and East Japan zones competing for honors in six-round bouts.

In the junior flyweight division, Kenichi Kimura was awarded a majority decision, 59-58 twice and 58-58, over Nao Tokushima. The 20-year-old Kimura is 10-1 with three KOs. Each weighed 112.

Takashi Shinmyo, 118, was declared a Shinjin-o (Novice King) winner in the bantamweight division because of a sudden pullout by Masami Yoshida.

Noboru Ogiwara, 122, captured junior featherweight honors with a knockout of Katsutoshi Yokoi, 120½, at 1:59. Noboru is 8-0-1 with four knockouts.

Unbeaten Seiji Asakawa took featherweight honors and was named Best Shinjin-o Winner of the Year after amazing the crowd with hs excellent skills as he nearly shut out previously undefeated Shinji Sugasaki to go 8-6 with six KOs.Two scores read 60-55, the third, 59-55. Each weighed 126.

Takao Sakuma finished Western Kinoshita at 2:45 of the second to take junior lightweight laurels. Sakuma is 8-0 with six KOs. Each weighed 130.

The lightweight title went to Seiji Hamazaki, 134¾, who scored a unanimous decision over Akihiko Kawamura, 134½. Hamazaki is 8-1 with six KOs.

Twenty-year-old Shigenari Motoi had won his first five fights by one-round knockouts, but he couldn't capture the junior welterweight crown, losing a decision to Seiji Nagasawa, who is 4-2 with three KOs. The hard-punching Motoi missed too many wild blows. Each weighed 139¼.

The welterweight championship went to Hitoshi Kamiyama, 147, who posted a shutout decision (60-57 and double 60-56) over Tatsuhiro Kawabata, 146¾.

Takeshi Yamato, 158¼, won middleweight honors with a decision over Seiji Yoshida, 157.

Ironically, all winners but Asakawa were from the East Zone, but Asakawa won best fighter honors.
(2-21-87)

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—The JBC's fourth-ranked lightweight, Mutsumi Suzuki, 130, took a split, 10-round decision over Tatsuo Tanigami, 129½, after a give-and-take war.

The 24-year-old Suzuki took scores of 98-97 twice to go 7-2-1 with three KOs. The 23-year-old Tanigami, who won one card 100-95, fell to 9-3 with five KOs.

Japan's second-ranked middleweight Hidenobu Sasaki, 156¼, took an eight-round decision from Tadakazu Shishido, 156.

Hidenori Shibata endured the opening attacks of Kazushi Maehara and retaliated effectively to finish the latter at 2:53 of the fifth round of a scheduled six. Each weighed 131.

Hiroki Ioka, an 18-year-old prospect, stopped Hisashi Nakatomi at the end of the first of a scheduled six. Each weighed 107. Ioka, 6-0 with five KOs, is scheduled to meet Kenji Ono for the Japanese mini-flyweight throne, but it might be too ambitious for the youngster, who hasn't even fought an eight-rounder yet.

American Douglous Tatsuma, 128, made a fine debut, demolishing Yoshikazu Sasagawa, 129, in 1:30 of a scheduled four.

Promoter: Shin-Nippon Saito Promotions.
(2-22-87)

▶**TAGAWA—Tagawa City Budokan**—After being stopped by Mitsuo Imazato in a bid for the Japanese flyweight title, Kazuto Kurahachi, Japan's third-ranked contender, made a fine comeback by outscoring Keiichi Ozaki, a durable opponent, in 10. Each weighed 119¼.

Kazuo Arashi, who previously fought as Osamu Kazuo, dropped an upset, 10-round decision to Masayuki Komoto. Each weighed 123½.
(3-8-87)

▶**YOKOHAMA—Yokohama Cultural Gymnasium**—Speedy Kikuchi, 121¼, was awarded a majority duke over Kazuma Saeki, 121½, in six. The winner is 5-2-1 with two KOs.

Hiroshi Shinmyo, 125¾, ran his log to 7-0 with four KOs, finishing Isao Kinouchi, 126, at 1:37 of the second round of a scheduled six.
(3-10-87)

▶**OKINAWA—Naha City Gymnasium**—Japanese junior welterweight champ Akinobu Hiranaka failed to stop his challenger, Yoshifumi Kitajima, but kept his title with a unanimous, 10-round decision.

Hiranaka, who weighed 140 as did Kitajima, is 9-0 with eight KOs.

Having been defeated by fast-rising Naoto Takahashi months ago, Tadashi Shimabukuro, 118¾, regained his zip and finished Shinji Ogawa, 119¼, at 46 seconds of the seventh round of a scheduled 10.
(3-15-87)

▶**MATSUYAMA—Ehime Prefectural Gymnasium**—Japan's ninth-ranked featherweight, Masakatsu Sakuma, 125¾, showed his ring experience in flattening Mitsunobu Goda, 125¼, at 2:12 of the fifth round of a scheduled 10.

Sakuma is 9-13-4 with five KOs, Goda 7-1-1 with six KOs.

Yosuke Matsuoka, 115, TKO'd Tatsuya Sugi, Japan's seventh-ranked junior bantam, 114¾, at the end of the fifth of the semifinal 10. Matsuoka, a local favorite, is 12-3-1 with five knockouts. Sugi is 8-5-3 with six KOs.

Promoter: Aiken Matsuyama Promotions.
(3-15-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

KOREA

▶**SUNGNAM—Sungnam Hope Country Gymnasium**—Korean junior bantamweight champ Chun Huh, 115, proved too strong for Yong-Man Cha, 114, stopping him at 1:04 of the second round of a scheduled 10.

The 5-8 Huh, making his first title defense, is 18-1 with 12 knockouts. Cha dropped to 9-3-3 with six KOs.

In a companion Korean title go, Chong-Hak Lee, 139¼, kept his crown by outpointing Tae-Wang Kang, 140, in 10. Lee is 19-5-5 with four KOs. Kang is 24-18-8.

Promoter: Ilhwa Promotions.
(2-1-87)

▶**SEOUL—Munhwa Gymnasium**—In an eliminator to decide a new Korean featherweight champion, Chan-Mok Park, 125½, seized the crown by winning a 10-round decison over Shi-Il Kim, 125¾.

Park is 3-1-with no KOs, while Kim fell to 10-2-1 with eight KOs.
(2-7-87)

▶**SEOUL—Muhgnwa Gymnasium**—Jae-Yong Hwang, the OPBF featherweight champion, exploded his opening attacks and dropped Won-Kyung Kim, the ex-Korean champ, at 1:50 of the first round in a scheduled 12.

Each southpaw weighed 125¾, but Hwang started fast and quickly caught his challenger with a flurry of punches. Kim was wobbled, but still standing when the KBC's referee wisely declared a halt to save the loser from further punishment. Hwang, previously regarded as a light-punching champion, improved his credentials to 18-1-1 with four KOs.

Kwon-Shik Kim, the KBC's fourth-ranked junior welterweight, and Kil-Suk Chun, the No. 10 lightweight, drew in a supporting 10. Kim weighed 135¼ to Chun's 135.

Promoter: Dong-Il Promotions.
(2-8-87)

▶**JUNJU—Jinji Kyunnam Student Gymnasium**—In an upset, OPBF bantamweight champ Ki-Youl Kang, the WBC's top contender, hit the deck four times and suffered an unexpected KO at the hands of Filipino champ Ernie Cataluna at 1:50 of the second round of a scheduled 12.

Cataluna, 117¼, a crafty southpaw, floored Kang with a southpaw right hook in the first round, but the Korean was saved by the bell. In Round Two, Cataluna swarmed over Kang, 117½, dropping him three more times with a barrage of punches.

Kang, who fell to 17-3-1 with 12 KOs, had scored a disputed decision in a previous meeting with Cataluna.

Cha-Suk Oh, the IBF's fifth-ranked featherweight, handed previously unbeaten Shin-Heung Lee a 10-round decision loss. Oh, 127¾, is 9-7-4, with Lee, 128, 8-1-1 with three KOs.

Promoter: World Promotions.
(2-14-87)

▶**SEOUL—Munhwa Gymnasium**—Byung-Soo Park, the KBC's second-ranked featherweight, scored a one-punch KO over top Filipino contender Hilbert Aragon, the end of the scheduled 10 coming at 3:04 of the third.

Park, who weighed 128, is 21-2-1 with 13 KOs, while Aragon, who weighed a half-pound less, fell to 23-6-4 with nine KOs.

Kang Choi, 133, drew with Bong-Chun Park, 134, over eight.

Promoter: Waryong Promotions.
(2-14-87)

▶**WONJU—Wonju Indoor Gymnasium**—Former stablemates Jun-Sok Hwang and Seung-Soon Lee battled for Hwang's OPBF welterweight championship, Lee coming away victorious at 16 seconds into the sixth round of the scheduled 12.

Hwang, at 147 a half-pound heavier than the challenger, was cut badly in the mouth and refused to come out fighting at the beginning of the fatal session, being counted out by the KBC referee. Ranked seventh by the WBC, Hwang fell to 34-4 with 23 KOs. Lee is 30-1 with 23 KOs.

Sang-Shik Kim, 149¼, improved his record to 9-3-2 with five KOs, scoring a 10-round decision over Kyung-Shik Park, 148¾. Park is 10-6-2 with five KOs.

Promoter: Wonju Promotions.
(2-15-87)

▶**BUJU—Buju Bokguk School Gymnasium**—OPBF junior flyweight champion Cho-Woon Park was befuddled by the durability of Rex Lapiso, but landed a wicked right to knock him out at 49 seconds of the last round of a scheduled 12.

Lapiso, who matched Park's 108 pounds, showed his gameness, but tired in the later rounds to suffer his first defeat against 14 wins and three draws. Park scored the fifth knockout in his 17-2-2 record.

Tae-Il Chung, 117, stopped Ki-Suk Kim, 116, at 10 seconds of the fifth round of a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Palpal Promotions.
(2-15-87)

▶**SEOUL—Jamsil Students Gymnasium**—Korean and Japanese winners of Novice King tourneys faced each other in five classes, with only one Nipponese boy, Masayuki Gibo, winning.

Gibo, 138¾, scored a six-round decison over Sang-Ju Park, also 138¾.

Moon-Shil Chi, 146¼, decisioned Yoshiaki Tajima, 145½, over six.

Young-Kyun Park, 124¾, disposed of Nobuyoshi Sato, 125½, at 37 seconds of the second round of a scheduled six.

Chong-Pil Park, 118, outscored Yukihiro Kimura, 117½, over six.
(2-22-87)

▶**KANGNOUNG—Kangnoung Gymnasium**—Chong-Hak Lee, the Korean Commission's junior welterweight champion, 141¾, decisioned Filipino Boy Romero, 142½, in 10. Lee, 20-5-5 with five kayoes, will be good opposition against the OPBF titlist Sang-Ho Lee.

In the semifinal, Tae-Yong Koh, 135, became the new Korean lightweight champion by stopping Wan-Taek Choi, 134½, at 2:41 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10. Koh is 11-1-1, with five knockouts. Choi fell to 15-7-2 with 10 kayoes. His setback dropped Choi to the fifth rank in the next KBC ratings.
(03-01-87)

▶**SEOUL—Jamsil Gymnasium**—Former amateur gold medalist of the Asian Games, Sung-Kil Moon, 116¾, made a fine pro debut by halting Ric Bajelot, Filipino top-ranked junior bantamweight at 116, at 2:40 of the fourth round in a scheduled eight.

Moon, a rugged puncher, is the Olympian who knocked out Robert Shannon in Los Angeles. He dropped the Filipino with a smashing right in the first round, attacked him all the way and made Ric give up midway in the fatal round. The Filipino , absorbing much punishment, turned to return to his corner. Bajelot fell to 17-2-2 with six kayoes.

In the semifinal, Sung-Ho Chang, 147, took the vacant Korean welterweight title as he was awarded a technical decision over Chan-Soo Kim, 146¼, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10.

Chang, previously ranked atop by the KBC, is 7-0 with five kayoes. Kim impaired to 5-2-1 with four KOs.

Promoter: 88 (Palpal) Promotions
(03-08-87)

▶**CHUNCHON—Chunchon Gymnasium**—Unbeaten ex-Olympian Chil-Sung Chun, the IBF's third-ranked junior lightweight, 132¼, had a tough time, but caught Louie Ilago, the Filipino Commission's top junior lightweight contender, also 132¼, and finished him at 2:26 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10.

Chun, who had fought Pernell Whitaker in the Los Angeles Olympic Games, is 6-0 with five knockouts. Ilago is 14-5-4 with two KOs.

Ex-IBF world flyweight champ Bi-Won Chung, 114¼, proved too strong for Filipino Ronnie Velescas, 113, stopping him at 2:27 of the third round in a scheduled 10. Chung, dethroned by Hi-Sup Shin via a 15th-round kayo last August, is 20-5-2 with six kayoes. Velescas fell to 14-2 with two KOs.

Kyung-Youn Lee, 109¾, the IBF's top-ranked mini-flyweight contender, ran his unbeaten log to 10-0 with three kayoes as he decisioned Nam-Byung Park, 112, in the first 10.

Promoter: 88 Promotions.
(3-14-87)

▶**TAEBAEK—KBS Hall**—In-Chul Baek, the WBC's third-ranked super welterweight at 157½, had a tough time, but decisioned Paul James, Australian top middleweight contender, 156½, in 10. Baek is 39-1 with 37 knockouts. Paul impaired to 14-3 with seven KOs.

In-Chul relinquished his OPBF throne in order to prepare for his forthcoming crack at the world title. He is also ranked second by the WBA.

Sam-Yong Kim, 119¾, stopped Yong-Ho Kim, 119½, at 2:43 of the sixth canto in a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Kukdong Promotions.
(03-15-87)

▶**SEOUL—Munhwa Gymnasium**—Former OPBF junior welterweight champ Eung-Shik Kim, 141¾, returned to action after a layoff and demolished Filipino Jun Ramos, the GAB's #2 contender, 141, at 2:24 of the third round in a scheduled 10.

Kim, an aggressive puncher, beat Ramos to the punch, dropped him twice and decked a fine comeback triumph.

Eung-Shik is 16-1 with 13 kayoes. Ramos fell to 8-3-1 with two KOs. Kim was dethroned by compatriot Kyung-Dok Ahn last year and since then he had been inactive.

Promoter: Dong-A Promotions.
(03-15-86)

▶**SEOUL—Munhwa Gymnasium**—Veteran campaigner Dong-Chun Lee, the IBF's 10th-ranked contender, 117¾, overcame the superior height and reach of Jun Llano, the IBF's #5 bantamweight, 117, and disposed of him at 1:56 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10. Lee floored the Filipino for the mandatory eight count in the first round. Jun came back hard with his advantageous reach, but Dong-Chun dropped him again with left and right hooks in Round Nine. Lee's body bombardments sank him for the third knockdown for the count.

Promoter: Hwaryong Promotions.
(03-22-87)

▶**EUJOUNGBU—Eujoungbu Citizens Arena**—Chang-Bae Ahn, 126, exploded wicked right crosses to the defending champ Chan-Mok Park 125¼, dropping him thrice to score a fine kayo at 2:02 of the second round in a scheduled 10. Ahn wrested the Korean featherweight crown very impressively. Ahn is 10-5 with five kayoes. Park fell to 3-2 with no KOs.

The semifinal saw an eliminator to decide a new Korean junior featherweight champion. Joung-Woo Park, 122, landed lethal straight rights to embalm Houn-Yong Park, ex-titlist at 122, at 0:40 of the third round in a scheduled 10. Park is 14-4-3 with two kayoes. The loser fell to 11-5-4 with a KO.

Promoter: Hyundai Promotions.
(03-28-87)

▶**WONJU—Wonju Indoor Gymnasium**—The OPBF welterweight title turned from hand to hand very busily. Ex-champ Jun-Sok Hwang lost it to Seung-Soon Lee via a sixth-round stoppage February 15. It was Hwang's 14th title defense, but it became his farewell to the crown.

Seung-Soon, ranked fifth by the WBC thanks to his valuable win, 146½, responded to the challenge of Korean kingpin Young-Kil Chung, also 146½, but lost his throne via a unanimous decision in 12. Scoring: referee Dae-In Chung 118-112, judge Jae-Bong Kim 117-114 and Eung-Myung Bae 118-112, all for the challenger.

Chung had been beaten by Lee twice previously. But his determination and effective body attacks won more points throughout the hot affair. There were no knockdowns, but Chung's solid rallies in the later rounds carried him to an important victory.

Young-Kil bettered his log to 21-3-2 with 14 knockouts. Lee fell to 30-2 with 23 knockouts. It might have been an upset result.

Promoter: Dong-A Promotions.
(03-29-87)

▶**NOTES:** This month saw many newly crowned Korean champions. It is good that the Korean Boxing Commission always urges national champs to face top contenders to activate the sport there. If not, they are stripped of their titles, and the KBC makes it a rule to order eliminators to decide successors to win the vacant crowns.

Therefore, the Korean boxing fraternity remains hot and competitive enough to produce strong fighters.

JOE KOIZUMI AND YOO-CHANG KIM

THAILAND

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Downrung Technicutaradit, Thai Commission's top-ranked flyweight, 114, easily knocked out Thongchai Sithkriengkrai, 113½, in the second round of a scheduled six. The winner is 10-1 with six kayoes.
(03-02-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Tepratum Eakchatchingchai, the TBC's top-ranked junior bantamweight contender, 117, stopped Jomphichit Kiathavachi, a local boy at 112, in the third round of a scheduled six. Tepratum is 13-1 with nine kayoes with his sole loss to Surasith Meeprasert.
(93-03-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Derntup Mortemchamnan, Thai #2 mini-flyweight, 112, polished off Karn Kiatsonthaya, 110, in the first round of a scheduled six.
(03-15-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Former Thai junior bantamweight champ Prabtoranee Luklampakchee, 121, appeared to have regained his vaunted jabbing and won a unanimous decision over Rakchai Kiatsonthaya, 121, in six. It's the second comeback go for Prabtoranee, who lately returned to ring warfare after his retirement due to an eye ailment years ago. The veteran speedster is still unbeaten with a fine record of 22-0 with 17 knockouts.
(03-06-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Superboy Eakvat, the TBC's #5 junior lightweight, 128, took a unanimous decision over Kwanchai S. Sinantha, a neglected underdog, 127, in six.
(03-07-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Trang T. Bunlerd, Thai mini-flyweight champion, 106, engaged in a non-title sixer, but was amazingly knocked out by unerhalded Ded Donjadee, 105, in the first round.

The champ fell to 8-1 with two kayoes. The upset winner is 2-3 with a KO.
(03-10-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Sombutryod Sing samang, the TBC's second-ranked bantamweight, 123, suffered an unexpected loss to Eak Donjaedee, 124¼, on points in six. Eak applied his favorite hit-and-run tactics, while the heavy favorite Sombutryod took just the second and third rounds. The winner is 14-8 with eight kayoes.
(03-12-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Downmai Sithkodom, Thai junior featherweight champion, 125, found it very easy to demolish unknown Eakayuth S. Kiatpohthong, 124, midway in the opening session of a scheduled six. Downmai is 17-3 with nine knockouts.
(03-14-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—In the night card on the same day, Mai Thonburifarm, 106, knocked out Petch Kiatthavatchai, 107, in the third canto of a scheduled six. Mai, 27, is a veteran soldier coming from the Muay-Thai field and is unbeaten with a 8-0 record including four KOs.
(03-14-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Klairung Lookphayom, the TBC's top junior flyweight contender, 111, stopped Umnaoy Sithfahcamron, 113, in the first session of a scheduled six. Klairung is 21-12 with 20 knockouts.
(03-17-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Noree Jockygym, 118, turned the tables in a rubber battle with Sombat Auesamphan, also 118, winning a unanimous decision in six. In their first encounter, Noree was knocked out by the sparring partner of the WBA junior bantamweight champ Kaosai Galaxy. But Noree won the rematch on points. In this fight, Noree dropped Sombat for the count of nine in Round Two. Noree is 16-4-1 with eight KOs.
(03-18-87)

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▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Pramoth Chuvatana, Thai #2 flyweight contender, 116, also became a victim in the "Month of Upsets" here as he lost a decision to lefty Theeraphan Sithborvorn, 116, in six. Theeraphan is 6-2 with three kayoes. Pramoth fell to 8-1 with five KOs.
(03-19-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Putt Ohyuthanakorn, Thai junior flyweight champ, 110, scored a unanimous decision over Thanjai Kiatthavatchai, 110, the TBC's, #1 mini-flyweight contender, in six. Putt's title wasn't at stake.
(03-20-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Surasith Meeprasert, Lumpinee Stadium's junior bantamweight champ ranked third by the TBC, appeared a bit too heavy at 122, but knocked out Pintuman Laudaryuhthaya, 117, in the second round of a scheduled six. Surasith, 18, is 33-6 with 19 kayoes. He will fight next against Shigenobu Nakamasa May 3 in Japan in a semifinal of an OPBF flyweight title go.
(03-21-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Having been stopped by Ki-Chang Kim in his previous fight in Korea last January, Singnoi Singkrungthon, Thai junior bantamweight champ at 117½, barely took a split six-round decision over Faipanieng Jockygym, 117, with a valuable knockdown in Round Five. But for Jockygym's visit to the deck, he would have been an obvious points victor. Singnoi is 22-7-1 with 10 knockouts.
(03-23-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Saksing Sithkrungthon, the TBC's #7 bantamweight contender, 121½, lost an upset verdict to Thamil Sithseemok, 121, in six. Saksing hit the deck for a mandatory eight count in the third round and fought on wobbly legs thereafter.
(03-25-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—An eliminator took place to decide a new Thai junior lightweight champion. Despite people's expectations, an underdog name Seikun Narachavat, 129, became the new titlist by taking a nearly onesided decision over Chan Rungrojana, the perennial top contender, also 129, in 10.

Scoring: 99-95, 100-94 and 100-93, all for Seikun. The winner is just 4-0 with a kayo, but he showed his big heart as well as good short punches. The title had been vacant with the Thai Commission stripping Thavein Narachavat (the new titlist's stablemate) of his TBC crown due to his failure to defend for six months.
(03-26-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Coming off the canvas in the fourth round, Chor Hhaphalang, the TBC's top featherweight contender, 127, knocked out Nakarj Kiatsonthaya, 123, in the sixth and final round. Chor boosted his log to 15-3 with 12 kayoes. He had been stopped by the current WBC world super bantamweight kingpin Samart Payakarun in 1986.
(03-27-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Tepratum Eakchatchingchai, Thai #1 junior bantam contender, 117, is a busy campaigner and finished easy victim Yuhtachai Sithfahcamron, 116, in the second session of a scheduled six. Tepratum is 14-1 with 10 knockouts.
(03-28-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Samuth Sithnarupon, the OPBF mini-flyweight champ at 109, fought a non-title go and easily disposed of Kaopongnoi S. Thaveerat, 111, in the second round of a scheduled six. Samuth is 26-11 with 13 kayoes.
(03-29-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—In a night card on the same day, Veera Kiatsonthaya, the TBC's eighth-ranked junior welterweight, 137, lost an upset decision to Samor Laudaryuhtaya, 135, in six.

Samor rated #8 in the TBC's lightweight ratings thanks to this unexpected victory.
(03-29-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Kongthoranee Payakarun, the WBA's fourth-ranked junior bantamweight, 120, appeared in his first fight since his bad defeat by Gilberto Roman in his quest for the WBC's title last December. Kongthoranee defeated Korean Sang-Suk Bang, also 120, in 10.

Kongthorannee, who had dominated five classes in the Muay Thai field, is an elder brother of the WBC world champ Samart. This comeback triumph carried him to a record of 10-1 with seven kayoes.
(03-31-87)

▶**SAMPUTPRAKAN—Samrong Stadium**—The OPBF junior featherweight champion Prayunsak Muangsurin, 122, was knocked down twice by the straight left of Korean challenger Hi-Yun Chung, 121, in the first and third rounds, but was awarded a lucky TKO win due to the Korean's gash in the seventh round of a scheduled 12.

The cornermen of Chung strongly protested against the stoppage, claiming that their boy could fight on. A cut over the right eyebrow cost Chung the title as he was leading on points. Prayunsak, 21-5 with 15 kayoes, fought for the first time since he was stopped by Korean Seung-Hoon Lee in his quest for the vacant IBF title in Korea on January 18 last. The OPBF headquarters should order them to fight again after the very controversial stoppage.
(03-24-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

READ THE RING

WORLD RATINGS BY THE WORLD BOXING COUNCIL

(As of April 21, 1987)

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3. Tony Tucker (U.S.)
4. Tyrell Biggs (U.S.)
5. Michael Spinks (U.S.)
6. Jose Ribalta (U.S.)
7. Frank Bruno (Great Britain)
8. James Smith (U.S.)
9. Tim Witherspoon (U.S.)
10. Gerry Cooney (U.S.)
11. Razor Ruddock (Canada)
12. Tony Tubbs (U.S.)
13. Greg Page (U.S.)
14. Adilson Rodrigues (Brazil)
14. Carl Williams (U.S.)
15. Larry Alexander (U.S.)
16. Carl Williams (U.S.)
17. James Douglas (U.S.)
18. Mike Weaver (U.S.)
19. Horace Notice (Great Britain)
20. Joe Bugner (U.S.)
21. Mitchell Green (U.S.)
22. Michael Williams (U.S.)
23. Marvis Frazier (U.S.)
24. Anders Ecklund (Denmark)
25. Terry Anderson (U.S.)
26. Jesse Ferguson (U.S.)
27. Avery Rawls (U.S.)
28. James Pritchard (U.S.)
29. Gary Mason (England)
30. David Bey (U.S.)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Carlos DeLeon (Puerto Rico)
1. Boone Pultz (U.S.)
2. Bert Cooper (U.S.)
3. Jose Maria Flores (Uruguay)
4. Michael Greer (U.S.)
5. Bernard Benton (U.S.)
6. Lee Roy Murphy (U.S.)
7. Henry Tillman (U.S.)
8. Taoufik Balbouli (Mauritania)
9. Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
10. Alfonzo Ratliff (U.S.)
11. Elijah Tillery (U.S.)
12. Sammy Reeson (England)
13. Angelo Rottoli (Italy)
14. Angelo Musone (Italy)
15. Anthony Davis (U.S.)
16. Daniel Netto (Argentina)
17. Kevin Wagstaff (Australia)
18. Cedric Parsons (Canada)
19. David Russell (Australia)
20. Ralf Rocchigiani (Germany)
21. Jorge Dascola (Argentina)
22. Sherman Griffin (U.S.)
23. Roy Smith (England)
24. Anthony Witherspoon (U.S.)
25. Tyrone Booze (U.S.)
26. Andy Straughn (England)
27. Glenn McCrory (England)
28. Young Haumoma (Tonga)
29. Silvain Watbled (France)
30. Tommy Richardson (U.S.)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Thomas Hearns (U.S.)
1. Eddie Davis (U.S.)
2. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
3. Alex Blanchard (Netherlands)
4. Don LaLonde (Canada)
5. Dennis Andries (England)
6. Charles Williams (U.S.)
7. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
8. Jean Marie Emebe (Cameroon)
9. Ramzi Hassan (U.S.)
10. Slobodan Kacar (Yugoslavia)
11. Willie Edwards (U.S.)
12. Jim MacDonald (U.S.)
13. Jorge Salgado (U.S.)
14. Mustafa Hamsho (U.S.)
15. Jeff Lampkin (U.S.)
16. Nestor Giovannini (Argentina)
17. Mark Kaylor (England)
18. Richard Caramanolis (France)
19. Chris Reid (U.S.)
20. Graciano Rocchigiane (Germany)
21. Uriah Grant (U.S.)
22. Kelvin Kelly (U.S.)
23. Tarmo Uusivirta (Finland)
24. Virgil Hill (U.S.)
25. Tom Collins (Great Britain)
26. Frankie Minton (U.S.)
27. Rufino Angulo (France)
28. Enrico Scacchia (Switzerland)
29. Doug Sam (Australia)
30. Jerry Okorududu (Nigeria)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Ray Leonard (U.S.)
1. Marvin Hagler (U.S.)
2. Herol Graham (England)
3. Juan D. Roldan (Argentina)
4. Michael Olajide (Canada)
5. Iran Barkley (U.S.)
6. Michael Nunn (U.S.)
7. Robbie Simms (U.S.)
8. Juan Carlos Gimenez (Paraguay)
9. James Kinchen (U.S.)
10. Lindell Holmes (U.S.)
11. Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)
12. Darnell Knox (U.S.)
13. Don Lee (U.S.)
14. Frank Winterstein (France)
15. Frank Tate (U.S.)
16. Tony Sibson (England)
17. Mark Holmes (U.S.)
18. Tony Darrell (U.S.)
19. Mike Tinley (U.S.)
20. Errol Christie (Great Britain)
21. Charlie Boston (U.S.)
22. Mark Janssen (Australia)
23. Tony Thornton (U.S.)
24. Luigi Minchillo (Italy)
25. Kevin Moley (U.S.)
26. Dario Matteoni (Argentina)
27. Doug DeWitt (U.S.)
28. Mark McPherson (U.S.)
29. Sean Mannion (U.S.)
30. Kevin Watts (U.S.)

SUPER WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Duane Thomas (U.S.)
1. John Mugabi (Uganda)
2. Matthew Hilton (Canada)
3. Don Curry (U.S.)
4. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
5. Lupe Aquino (U.S.)
6. Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
7. John Munduga (Uganda)
8. Ramon Ramos (Argentina)
9. Milton McCrory (U.S.)
10. Kenny Snow (U.S.)
11. Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)
12. Elio Diaz (Venezuela)
13. Davey Moore (U.S.)
14. Mark Medal (U.S.)
15. Chris Pyatt (England)
16. Jon-Sok Hwang (Korea)
17. Carlos Elliott (Japan)
18. David Braxton (U.S.)
19. Steve Little (U.S.)
20. Ramon Abeldano (Argentina)
21. Saad Skouma (France)
22. Hugo Marinangeli (Argentina)
23. Troy Waters (Australia)
24. Francisco Lisboa (Indonesia)
25. Mardo Roybal (U.S.)
26. Jack Callahan (U.S.)
27. John David Jackson (U.S.)
28. Mauro Martelli (Switzerland)
29. Jae-Hyung Yuh (Korea)
30. Lloyd Hibbert (England)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Lloyd Honeyghan (Great Britain)
1. Tommy Ayers (U.S.)
2. Marlon Starling (U.S.)
3. Maurice Blocker (U.S.)
4. Tomas Molinares (Columbia)
5. Simon Brown (U.S.)
6. Yung-Kil Chung (Korea)
7. Jorge Vaca (Mexico)
8. Lorenzo Garcia (Argentina)
9. Tyrone Trice (U.S.)
10. Horace Shufford (U.S.)
11. Seung-Soon Lee (Korea)
12. Kirkland Laing (Great Britain)
13. Gene Hatcher (U.S.)
14. Daryl Anthony (U.S.)
15. Hector Hugo Vilte (Argentina)
16. Sylvester Mittee (Great Britain)
17. Charles Nwokolo (Nigeria)
18. Brian Janssen (Australia)
19. Judas Clottey (Ghana)
20. Luis Santana (U.S.)
21. Helio Santana (Brazil)
22. Manning Galloway (U.S.)
23. Hugh Kearney (U.S.)
24. Sung-Ho Chang (Korea)
25. Fujio Ozaki (Japan)
26. Marcelo DiCroce (Argentina)
27. Jose Varela (Germany)
28. Orlando Orozco (Venezuela)
29. Shawn O'Sullivan (Canada)
30. Simon Escobar (Argentina)

SUPER LIGHTWEIGHTS

Champion
Tsuyoshi Hamada (Japan)
1. Rene Arredondo (Mexico)
2. Frankie Warren (US)
3. Buddy McGirt (US)
4. Ronnie Shields (U.S.)
5. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
6. Juan Coggi (Argentina)
7. Rodolfo Gonzalez (Mexico)
8. Meldrick Taylor (US)
9. Harold Brazier (US)
10. Howard Davis, Jr. (U.S.)
11. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
12. Joe Manley (US)
13. Gary Hinton (US)
14. Alberto M. Cortes (Argentina)
15. John Meekins (US)
16. Eung-Dik Kim (Korea)
17. Andy Nance (U.S.)
18. Hugo Hernandez (Argentina)
19. Akinobu Hiranaka (Japan)
20. John Montes (U.S.)
21. Vincent Releford (US)
22. Reyes Cruz (Dominican Republic)
23. Thomas Nkalankete (France)
24. Tony Laing (England)
25. Pat Leglise (Australia)
26. Allan Allegria (Philippines)
27. Rodolfo Aguilar (Panama)
28. Maurizio Ronzoni (Italy)
29. Jean-Baptiste Mendy (Senegal)
30. Cassius Clay Horn (U.S.)

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Champion
Hector Camacho (Puerto Rico)
1. Jose Luis Ramirez (Mexico)
2. Terrence Alli (U.S.)
3. Frankie Randall (U.S.)
4. Jimmy Paul (U.S.)
5. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (Uganda)
6. Pernell Whitaker (U.S.)
7. Darryl Tyson (U.S.)
8. Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)
9. Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)
10. Cubanito Perez (US)
11. Vinny Pazienza (US)
12. Roger Mayweather (U.S.)
13. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
14. Sarad Petchyindee (Thailand)
15. Primo Ramos (Mexico)
16. Luis Soto (Argentina)
17. Jesus Romero (Argentina)
18. John Duplessis (U.S.)
19. Rene Weller (Germany)
20. Mauricio Aceves (Mexico)
21. Sergio Zambrano (Mexico)
22. Livingstone Bramble (US)
23. Tony Willis (England)
24. Vernon Buchanan (U.S.)
25. Sammyu Fuentes (Puerto Rico)
26. Dale Artango (Australia)
27. Shelton LeBlanc (US)
28. Walter Sims (U.S.)
29. Timmy Burgess (U.S.)
30. Mo Hussein (Great Britain)

SUPER FEATHERWEIGHTS

Champion
Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico)
1. Juan LaPorte (U.S.)
2. Mario Martinez (Mexico)
3. Lester Ellis (Australia)
4. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
5. Francisco Tomas Cruz (Brazil)
6. Johnny de la Rosa (D.R.)
7. Rocky Lockridge (U.S.)
8. Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)
9. Daniel Londas (France)
10. Danilo Cabrera (Dominican Republic)
11. Kenny Baysmore (U.S.)
12. Dwight Pratchett (U.S.)
13. Dennis Cruz (Puerto Rico)
14. Pasqual Aranda (U.S.)
15. Manuel Batista (D.R.)
16. Sung-Yun Kim (Korea)
17. Jose Rivera (Puerto Rico)
18. Sam Akromah (Ghana)
19. Jackie Beard (U.S.)
20. Kamel Bou Ali (Tunisia)
21. Jim McDonnell (England)
22. Refugio Rojas (Mexico)
23. Tony Lopez (U.S.)
24. Tony Pep (Canada)
25. Julio Miranda (Argentina)
26. Eduardo Galan (Argentina)
27. Najib Daho (Great Britain)
28. Jose Vidal Concepcion (Puerto Rico)
29. Francisco Fernandez (Panama)
30. Eleodoro Urbina (Peru)

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Champion
Azumah Nelson (Ghana)
1. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
2. Calvin Grove (U.S.)
3. Bernard Taylor (U.S.)
4. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
5. Barry McGuigan (Great Britain)
6. Jose Mario Lopez (Argentina)
7. Javier Marquez (Mexico)
8. Jose Marmolejo (Panama)
9. Mauro Gutierrez (Mexico)
10. Carlos Zarate (Mexico)
11. Steve Cruz (U.S.)
12. Jaime Garza (U.S.)
13. Joe Ruelas (U.S.)
14. Roger Arevalo (Mexico)
15. Osmar Avila (Argentina)
16. Lupe Suarez (U.S.)
17. Ki-Yung Chung (Korea)
18. Robert Rivera (Puerto Rico)
19. Maurizio Stecca (Italy)
20. George Navarro (U.S.)
21. Min-Keun Oh (Korea)
23. Juvenal Ordenes (Chile)
24. Jae-Yong Hwang (Korea)
25. Lenny Valdez (Mexico)
26. Alvaro Bohorquez (Colombia)
27. Tony Miller (Australia)
28. Mitsuru Sugiya (Japan)
29. Richard Savage (U.S.)
30. Juan Carlos Salazar (Mexico)

SUPER BANTAMWEIGHTS

Champion
Samart Payakaroon (Thailand)
1. Jeff Fenech (Australia)
2. Harold Petty (U.S.)
3. Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
4. Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)
5. Loris Stecca (Italy)
6. Valerio Nati (Italy)
4. Harold Petty (U.S.)
5. Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
6. Julian Solis (Puerto Rico)
7. Jose Sanabria (Venezuela)
8. Daniel Blanco (Colombia)
9. Daryl Thigpen (U.S.)
10. Jesse Benavides (U.S.)
11. Jesus Salud (U.S.)
12. Alberto Mercado (Puerto Rico)
13. Mike Ayala (U.S.)
14. James Pipps (U.S.)
15. Aaron Lopez (U.S.)
16. Pedro Decima (Argentina)
17. Tommy Valoy (Dominican Rep.)
18. George Garcia (U.S.)
19. Prayoonsak Muangsurin (Thailand)
20. Ruben Dario Palacios (Colombia)
21. Ramon Dominguez (Argentina)
22. Bobby Berna (Philippines)
23. Jose Meneses (Panama)
24. Mark Horikoshi (Japan)
25. Patricio Gil (Argentina)
26. Luisito Espinosa (Philippines)
27. Hi-Yun Chung (Korea)
28. Julio Gervasio (Dominican Republic)
29. Joe Hiyas (Philippines)
30. Manuel Vilchez (Venezuela)

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Champion
Miguel Lora (Colombia)
1. Hurley Snead (U.S.)
2. Chan-Yung Park (Korea)
3. Greg Richardson (U.S.)
4. Hurley Snead (U.S.)
5. Frankie Duarte (U.S.)
6. Lucio Lopez (Argentina)
7. Antonio Avelar (Mexico)
8. Wilfredo Vazquez (Puerto Rico)
9. Ernie Cataluna (Philippines)
10. Jorge Ramirez (Mexico)
11. Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)
12. Ki-Youl Kang (Korea)
13. Gaby Canizales (U.S.)
14. Azael Moran (Panama)
15. Kelvin Seabrooks (U.S.)
16. Alberto Martinez (Mexico)
17. Enrique Sanchez (Dom. Rep.)
18. Ray Minus (Bahamas)
19. Ciro de Leva (Italy)
20. Raul Perez (Mexico)
21. Juan Jose Estrada (Mexico)
22. Changuito Carmona (Mexico)
23. Naoto Takahashi (Japan)
24. Kaokor Galaxy (Thailand)
25. Louis Gomis (France)
26. Yung-Duk Park (Korea)
27. Fernando Beltran (Mexico)
28. Rocky Chitalada (Thailad)
29. James Manning (U.S.)
30. Pepillo Valdez (Mexico)

SUPER FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Gilberto Roman (Mexico)
1. Santos Laciar (Argentina)
2. Frank Cedeno (Philippines)
3. Sugar Baby Rojas (Colombia)
4. Raul Diaz (Colombia)
5. Juan Carazo (Puerto Rico)
6. Alberto Castro (Colombia)
7. Kongtoranee Payakaroon (Thailand)
8. Gustavo Ballas (Argentina)
9. Antoine Montero (France)
10. Michael Parris (Guyana)
11. Eudo Bermudez (Colombia)
12. Edgar Monseratt (Panama)
13. Juan Polo Perez (Colombia)
14. Cesar Polanco (Dom. Rep.)
15. Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
16. Byung-Kwan Chung (Korea)
17. Israel Contreras (Venezuelas)
18. Kiyoshi Hatanaka (Japan)
19. Oscar Bolivar (Colombia)
20. Dong-Choon Lee (Korea)
13. Michael Parrish (Guayana)
14. Eudo Bermudez (Colombia)
18. Ki-Chang Kim (Korea)
19. Mike Moreno (U.S.)
20. Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
21. Thierry Jacob (France)
22. Hi-Sup Shin (Korea)
23. Constancio Dangla (Philippines)
24. Ernesto Ford (Panama)
25. Chun Hih (Korea)
26. Mike Moreno (U.S.)
27. Dae-Yong Park (Korea)
28. Soon-Chun Kwong (Korea)
29. Jose Chacon (Panama)
30. Elvis Alvarez (Colombia)

FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Sot Chitalada (Thailand)
1. Rae-Ki Ahn (Korea)
2. Fidel Bassa (Colombia)
3. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
4. Miguel Mercedes (Dominican Rep.)
5. Gabriel Bernal (Mexico)
6. Richard Clarke (Jamaica)
7. Orlando Canizales (U.S.)
8. Paul Gonzales (U.S.)
9. Rafael Caban (Puerto Rico)
10. Javier Lucas (Mexico)
11. Jimmy Fernandez (Mexico)
12. Hideaki Kamishiro (Japan)
13. Rafael Cabrera (Dominican Rep.)
14. Hilario Zapata (Panama)
15. Oh-Kong Son (Korea)
16. Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)
17. Juan Herrera (Mexico)
18. Thanomsak Singboebae (Thailand)
19. Bi-Won Chung (Korea)
20. Shuichi Hozumi (Japan)
21. Ray Medel (U.S.)
22. Nana Konadu (Ghana)
23. Franco Cherchi (Italy)
24. Claudemir Dias (Brazil)
25. Gilberto Sosa (Mexico)
26. Fernando Varguez (Mexico)
27. Soon-Joong Kang (Korea)
28. Yul-Woo Lee (Korea)
29. Angel Rosario (Puerto Rico)
30. Rolando Bohol (Philippines)

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Jung-Koo Chang (Korea)
1. Rodolfo Blanco (Mexico)
2. Jorge Cano (Mexico)
3. Benedicto Murillo (Panama)
4. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
5. Agustin Garcia (Colombia)
6. German Torres (Mexico)
7. Seiji Tomari (Japan)
8. Willy Salazar (Mexico)
9. Rodolfo Alvarado (Mexico)
10. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
11. Efren Pinto (Mexico)
12. Emilio Santos (Mexico)
13. Yong-Kang Kim (Korea)
14. Mario DeMarco (Argentina)
15. Santiago Mendez (Mexico)
16. Roy Thompson (Panama)
17. Little Baguio (Philippines)
18. Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)
19. Francisco Montiel (Mexico)
20. Ruben Padilla (Mexico)
21. Tomohiro Kiyuna (Japan)
22. Pretty Boy Lucas (Philippines)
23. Agapito Gomex Alvarado (Spain)
24. Jose de Jesus (Puerto Rico)
25. Pedro Rabago (Mexico)
26. Hideyuki Ohashi (Japan)
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29. Humberto Gonzalez (Mexico)
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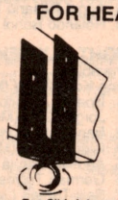

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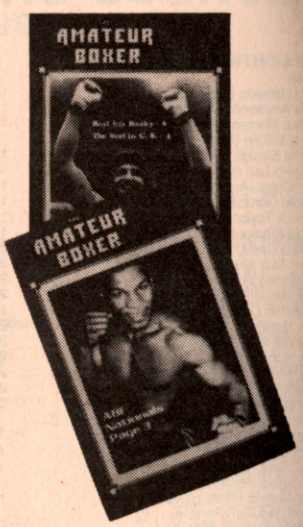

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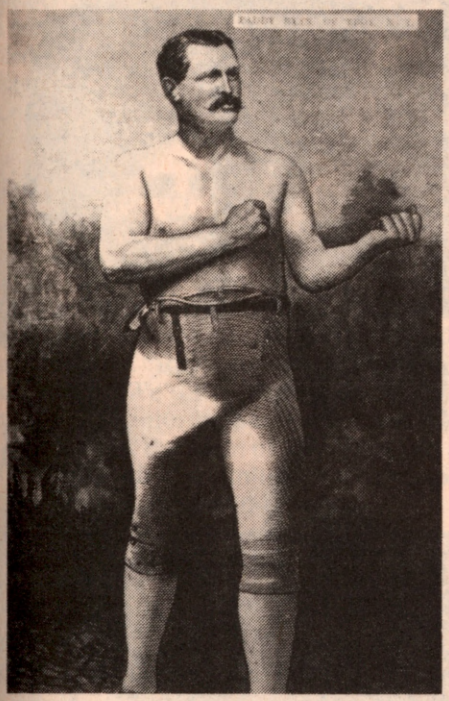
ASK THE ANSWERMAN

by Phill Marder



This month the "Answerman" gives reader Thomas V. Soesman the lowdown on bareknuckle heavyweight champion Paddy Ryan.

Q: The other day I saw the Marciano-Walcott heavyweight title fight on the videotape "Grudge Fights." In the 13th round, Marciano floored Walcott with a right blow. As Walcott goes down in a kneeling position, Marciano is seen hitting Walcott with a left hook to the head. Was Marciano penalized for that blow?

LARRY BRODBAR
New Hyde Park, NY

A: *Often, fighters, propelled by momentum, complete combinations after the opponent is already on the deck. Marciano floored Walcott with the famous right, then followed with a left hook to the head while Walcott was kneeling. The right was probably enough as Walcott pitched onto his face. In any event, Marciano was not penalized. Walcott was counted out and Marciano was declared champion.*

Q: When was the first paid closed-circuit TV fight? My friend said the first was when Ray Robinson fought Joey Maxim in June, 1952. I said paid closed-circuit TV was not out then. If you can, would you please solve this for me?

GENE ROBERTS
Philadelphia, PA

A: *I wasn't around to see it, but the first theater telecast of a fight occurred Feb. 23, 1939. The occasion was a match between Eric Boon and Arthur Danahar at London's Harringay Arena. The Gaumont-British Corporation piped the fight into three London theaters on 16 x 12 screens. In the United States, a trial theater telecast of the Jimmy Garrison-George Latka fight in the Hollywood Legion Stadium took place May 10, 1940. The first theater telecast of a championship bout in the United States originated from Madison Square Garden May 9, 1941. Billy Soose met Ken Overlin for the world middleweight championship, with the bout screened into the Guild (New Yorker) Theatre. In 1951, Joe Louis and Lee Savold met in a non-title bout generally considered the first closed-circuit show as we know them today. The 1951 bout was held in New York, but shown in six other centers throughout the country.*

Q: I am trying to get whatever information is available regarding Paddy Ryan, who was defeated by John L. Sullivan in 1882 fighting for the heavyweight title. The bout lasted only nine rounds, a short fight in those days. If there is any possible photo source, it would really top off this inquiry.

THOMAS V. SOESMAN
Orlanda, FLA

A: *Paddy Ryan was born March 15, 1853 in Thurles, Tipperary, Ireland. When he came to America, he called Troy, New York, home. Ryan, at 5-11, 200 pounds, made fistic history by winning the heavyweight championship in his first professional fight, beating 42-year-old Joe Goss May 30, 1880 in West Virginia. The Trojan Giant, as Ryan was dubbed, floored Goss with a right counter in the 86th round and Goss was unable to answer the bell for the 87th. The fight lasted one hour, 24 minutes. Ryan then lost the championship in his second pro fight, falling to John L. Sullivan in nine rounds. This fight, at the Barnes Hotel in Mississippi City Feb. 2, 1882, lasted just 10½ minutes. Three years later, they met again with New York City police stopping the bout in the very first round to save Ryan from being punished. He tried Sullivan a third time in San Francisco in 1886 only to be knocked out in three rounds. Ryan died Dec. 14, 1900 in Green Island, N.Y. He was elected to* ***The Ring*** *Hall of Fame in 1973.*

Q: When were the IBF, WBC, NABF and WBA founded? Has there ever been a world title won through a disqualification?

R. LAMARK
Clinton, Conn.

A: *The National Boxing Association (NBA) changed to the WBA in 1962; the WBC was founded in 1963 and the IBF in 1983. The NABF came into being in 1969. The first WBC title fight took place Dec. 2, 1965 when Salvatore Burruni knocked out Rocky Gattelleri in the 13th round for the flyweight championship. The initial WBA championship bout took place March 5, 1965 when Ernie Terrell won a 15-round decision over Eddie Machen for the heavyweight crown. The IBF came into existence May 21, 1983 when Marvin Camel stopped Rocky Sekorski in the ninth round to win the cruiserweight title. Max Schmeling won the heavyweight title June 12, 1930 when Jack Sharkey was disqualified for a low blow.*

Q: Where can I purchase videos of fight films?

JAY WEST
Montreal, Canada

A: *Numerous readers have written asking for information pertaining to the purchase of fight films on video. Jim Jacobs and Bill Cayton own the largest collection of fight films, but they are not available for public sale.*

WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Alfonzo Ratliff W10 Craig Bodzianowski
Tex Cobb TKO2 Rick Keller
Tex Cobb TKO2 Frankie Alberts
Tex Cobb Tec. Draw Bill Duncan
Renaldo Snipes TKO5 Melvin Epps
Dennis Jackson KO5 Lorenzo Boyd
Lee Roy Murphy W10 Bobby Crabtree
Leon Spinks W12 Jeff Jordan
Francesco Damiani W10 James Broad
Orlin Norris KO2 Eddie Richardson
Spencer Chavis W10 Curtis Isaac
Spencer Chavis KO1 Antonio Arrvizu
Sammy Reeson W12 Manfred Jassman
Slobodan Kacar W8 Danny Lawford
Tony Tubbs W10 Mike Jamieson
Johnny du Plooy TKO9 David Bey

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Bobby Czyz TKO6 Jim MacDonald
(Retained IBF Title)
Chong-Pal Park W15 Lindell Holmes
(Retained IBF Super Middleweight Title)
Leslie Stewart TKO5 Bobby Thomas
Chris Reid TKO6 Ian Mattis
Ramzi Hassan W12 Uriah Grant
Nicky Walker W10 James Waire
Willie Edwards KO5 Tony Morrison
Glen Kennedy TKO7 Vinnie Curto
Virgil Hill KO1 Marvin Camel

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Ray Leonard W12 Marvin Hagler
(Won World Title)
Lupe Aquino TKO5 Davey Moore
Juan Roldan TKO9 James Kinchen
Herman Cavasuala W10 Clive Chamberlain
Danny Garcia KO1 Chi Chi Santana
Mike McCallum TKO10 Milton McCrory
(Retained WBA Jr. Middleweight Title)
Mike McCallum KO1 Leroy Hester
Robbie Sims TKO5 Lee Sanders
Tex N'kalankete TKO6 Alexandro Scapecchi
Jerry Holly W10 Tim Williams .
Brett Beakin W10 Robbie Hitchenson
Kevin Moley TKO9 Derrick Earvin
Derrick Kelly W12 Tomas Perez
Robert Hines TKO7 Ismael Negron
Mardo Roybal W10 Fred Hutchings
Darryl Spain W10 Al Laddie
Carlos Elliot KO9 Jae-Hyun Yuh
Masaharu Owada TKO8 Tadashi Maruo
Kenji Kubo KO6 Hideo Kanenami
Michael Nunn TKO5 Cecil Pettigrew

WELTERWEIGHTS
Lloyd Honeyghan W12 Maurice Blocker
(Retained WBC Title)
Anthony Fletcher TKO8 Joseph Alexander
Joe Frazier Jr. TKO8 Brett Summers
Tony Martin W10 Sanford Ricks
John Meekins TKO3 Sergio Aguirre

Bobby Czyz raises his arms in victory shortly after polishing off "Diamond" Jim MacDonald to retain the IBF light heavyweight title in Atlantic City.

Meldrick Taylor W10 Primo Ramos
Alfonso Redondo TKO10 Jose Varela
(Won European Title)
Brian Janssen W12 Judas Clottey
Shane Knox TKO3 Ray Arua
Hong-Kyu Lim W5 Chong-Hak Lee
Harold Brazier TKO4 Roosevelt Jones
Harold Brazier TKO3 Billy Wills
Hugh Kearney W10 Daryl Anthony
Jesse Toby Flores W10 Eduardo Dominguez
Eiji Kikuzaki KO2 Naoki Ito
Hector Camacho W10 Howard Davis Jr.
James McGirt TKO12 Vincent Releford

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Joey Medina W10 Raphe Sims
Lou Lomeli TKO1 Sebastian Wilburn
Brian Mitchell D15 Joe Rivera
(Retained WBA Jr. Lightweight Title)
Angel Hernandez W10 Vitorio Belcher
Julio Cesar Chavez TKO3 Francisco Tomas Cruz
(Retained WBC Super Feather Title)
Juan LaPorte W10 Rafael Gandarilla
Tyrone Jackson TKO10 Floyd Favors
Jose Concepcion TKO8 Angel Garcia
Tim Burgess D10 Fred Pendleton
Masahiro Takagi TKO3 Taichi Okada
Yoshimitsu Azato KO3 Bruce Kyoda
Fusao Imai W10 Tiger Michigami
Koki Higashi W10 Shirk Ishihara
Iawo Otomo TKO8 Naoyuki Iramina
Emancio Castro KO2 Jimmy Paul
Mo Hussein TKO6 Santos Moreno
Sammy Fuentes KO1 Jerome Spottsville
David Gonzales D10 Ernie Landeros
Manny Hernandez W10 Ruben Proa
Harold Knight TKO7 Kenny Baysmore
(USBA Junior Lightweight Title)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Seung-Hoon Lee KO10 Jorge Diaz
(Retained IBF Jr. Feather Title)
Daniel Zaragoza W12 Aaron Lopez
(Retained NABF Super Bantam Title)
Hector Lopez KO9 Bernard Taylor
Alfred Rangel W10 Hector Cortez
Victor Callejas W10 Cleo Garcia
Julio Gervasio TKO2 Manuel Miranda
John Molina TKO10 Victor Aponte

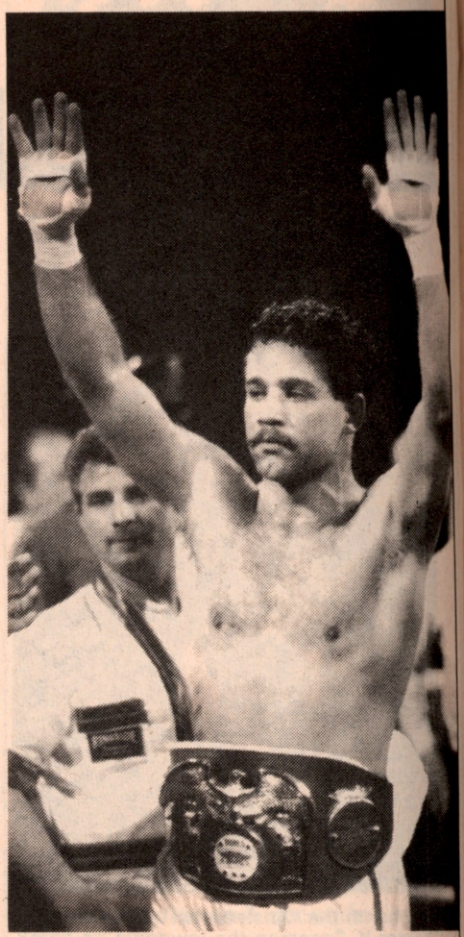


PHOTO BY WILL HART

Roberto Rivera W12 Alberto Reyes
Jeff Fenech W12 Tony Miller
(Won Australian Title)
Jaime Garza W10 Dwight Pratchett
Joe Ruelas TKO3 Julian Solis
Calvin Grove W10 Angel Hernandez
Mark Horikoshi TKO3 Kimio Saotome
Mitsuru Sugiya KO3 Masayoshi Matsuura
Steve McCrory W10 Chris Diaz
Steve McCrory KO2 Ramon Guiellen
Akira Urakawa W10 Yoshiteru Uegaki

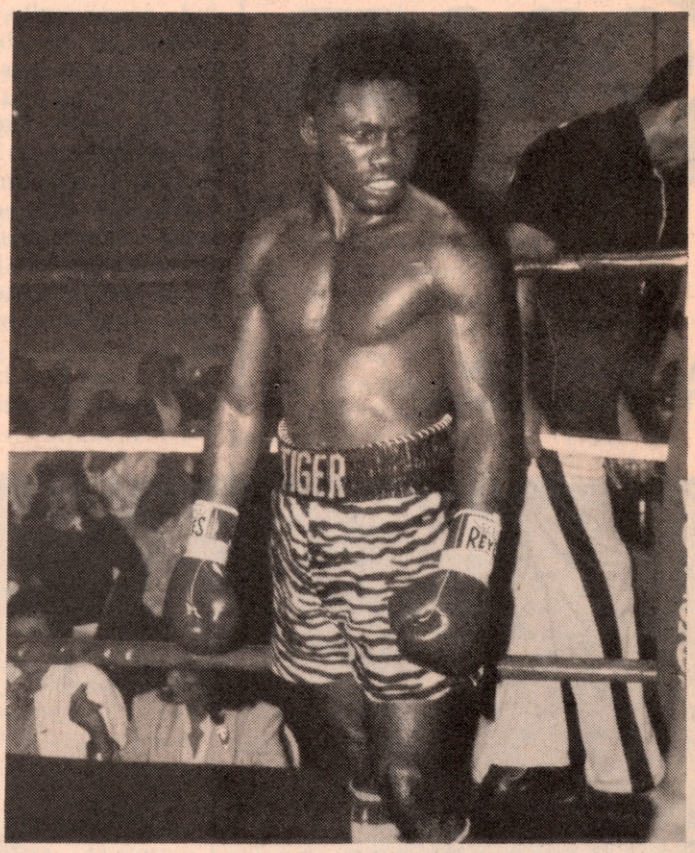
BANTAMWEIGHTS
Angel Rosario TKO5 Baby Caban
Gaby Canizales TKO3 Mike Moreno
Hiroshi Yamamoto TKO9 Mitsuru Arazaki

FLYWEIGHTS
Fidel Bassa KO13 Dave McAuley
(Retained WBA Title)
Jung-Koo Chang KO6 Efren Pinto
(Retained WBC Jr. Flyweight Title)
Hideyuki Ohashi TKO3 Masato Tanaka
Hiroyuki Miyata D10 Katsumi Komiyama
Tomohiro Kiyuna W10 Seiji Tomari

BOXER SHORTS

RAYMOND MEDEL
FLYWEIGHT

A 16-FIGHT VETERAN AT THE RELATIVELY YOUNG AGE OF 19, Raymond Medel is the new USBA flyweight champion by virtue of an eighth-round knockout over Henry Brent in Medel's home town of San Antonio, Texas . . . A member of the Tony Ayala Sr. stable, Medel is known as "Leoncito," or "Little Lion" . . . He began his pro career with a knockout over Juanito Martinez in September of '84 in Sabinas, Mexico and proceeded to tally five more wins before losing a four-round decision to Roland Gomez in Corpus Christi. Medel quickly bounced back with four more victories before dropping a 10-round nod to former WBC flyweight king Gabriel Bernal in Houston. Medel's only other loss in an overall pro record of 13-3 (seven KOs) came against Mike Phelps . . . "All of Ray's losses have been close and controversial," reported Ayala in typical managerial fashion. "The Bernal fight was a laugh. Ray beat him all over the ring." . . . Ayala also claims Medel was robbed in the Phelps bout . . . Following the loss to Phelps, Medel posted a pair of 10-round decision wins over Armando Velasco and Azadin Anhar before beating Brent for his first professional title . . . "Ray's got age on his side and he's hungry," said Ayala. "We'd like him to make a couple of defenses, move up to junior bantamweight and then on to bantam." . . . Trained by the team of Ray Medel Sr. and Hector Perez, Medel is rapidly becoming a hot commodity in the always fascinating flyweight division. □



YOUNG DICK TIGER
WELTERWEIGHT

HOPING TO FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS UNCLE, Nigerian Charles Nwokolo has taken the ringname Young Dick Tiger. Like the former world middleweight and light heavyweight champion, Young Tiger came to the United States in search of a world title. He settled in Hollywood, California where he is trained by veteran Bill Slayton (who also trained Ken Norton) and managed by Nnamdi Moweta . . . A powerful puncher, especially with his right hand, Young Tiger has racked up an impressive 18-1 record with 15 KOs during his brief pro career. His lone loss came on a disputed 12-round decision to Felipe Canela for the California State welterweight title. Young Tiger's victims include Rigo Lopez (W10), Jaime Montano (KO6), Dionisio Castillo (KO2) and Antonio Espinal (KO1) . . . In the '84 Olympics, Nwokolo reached the quarterfinals before losing a 3-2 decison to Puerto Rico's Jorge Maisonet . . . When not in training, Young Tiger enjoys watching kung fu movies and dreams of becoming an actor following his boxing career. But for the present, he has another mission in mind: "I want to be the first African world welterweight champion. I have confidence that I will do it" . . . If Young Tiger turns out to be half as good as his uncle, who was elected to **The Ring's** Boxing Hall of Fame in 1974, it should be a snap. □

IN THIS CORNER

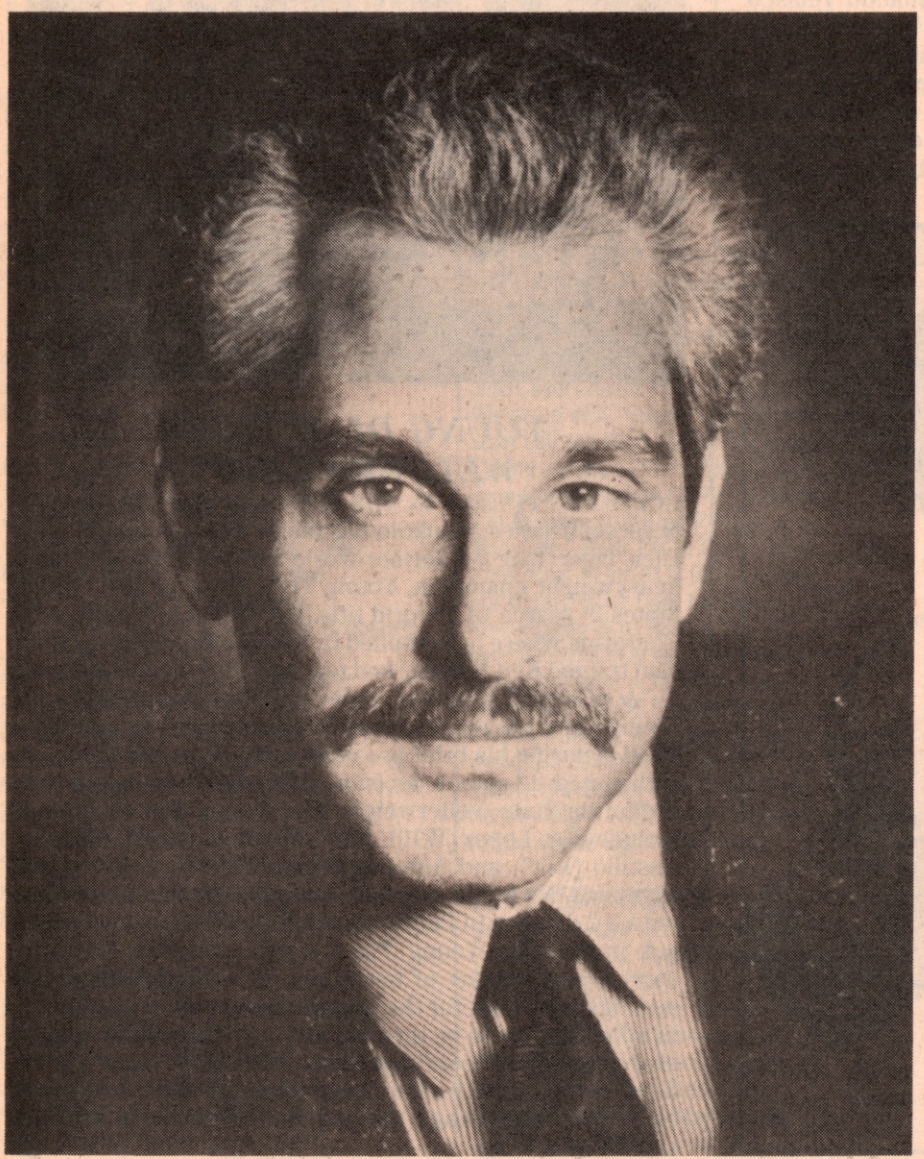
by Jeff Carlson

AL BERNSTEIN (TV boxing analyst)

"I'VE DONE MORE BOXING IN THE LAST six years than probably any man alive," said ESPN's Al Bernstein, of his 2½-hour, 50 weeks-a-year job as analyst and occasionally blow-by-blow announcer on the cable network. In addition, Bernstein has handled a number of independent boxing assignments, including the first Mancini-Bramble fight and the Marvelous Marvin Hagler-John Mugabi closed-circuit telecast.

His gray hair contrasts with his bushy brown moustache. He wears glasses in person, but not on TV. He's an animated speaker, who talks openly and excitedly about himself and his career.

"I'm there to enhance the event, I'm not there to dominate it," Bernstein said. He credits his journalism background for helping him organize his efforts on fight nights. Incredibly, Bernstein swears there has never been a broadcast where he has been familiar with all the fighters on the card—and he needs to be. In case fights end early, it's possible that up to 12 fighters a night may find their way onto TV. Before the bouts he has a limited amount of time to interview fighters and their handlers and try to separate fight fact from fiction.



"Boxing isn't like baseball. There's no way to find this stuff out for sure," said Bernstein, of the exaggerated amateur (and often professional) records many fighters lay claim to.

"In a boxing match, you're weaving a video tapestry," said Bernstein, who adds that, like a news story, he starts with the most important stuff first and works his way down. When he's doing his job well the fans get to know the fighters a little better and understand why something is or isn't happening.

By combining his knowledge of the sport and the fighters with an analysis of trends that take place during the course of a bout, Bernstein is able to demystify some of the science of the sport. "Boxing is a mystical sport, but to the casual observer, they have no idea what's happening," Bernstein said. He prides himself on fairness and telling the truth, "... but everything's not black and white. It's important to catch the gray areas."

"Al's very honest about what he says concerning people," said Scotty Connal, Vice-President of Production for ESPN. "He's not a middle-of-the-roader. He doesn't say bad things, but he doesn't shy away from the obvious."

About the excessive egos in television, Bernstein said, "The viewer, not the announcer, is the one who should be impressed." The key to his longevity, Bernstein feels, has been an ability to "wear well" with the viewers.

"Al, to the average viewer, has a tremendous amount of credibility," said Connal. "He doesn't beat you over the head and he knows the sport."

"I think Al is an extremely knowledgeable guy," said Top Rank's Bob Arum. "He gives a very accurate appraisal of what's happening in the ring."

Some viewers treat Bernstein as "the ultimate authority," a role in which he feels uncomfortable, (he doesn't even like to score the bouts for visual con-

By combining his knowledge of the sport and the fighters with an analysis of trends that take place during the course of a bout, Bernstein is able to demystify some of the science of the sport.

sumption) but can't help acknowledging it's an ego booster. "For 20 seconds (at the beginning of each show), I own ESPN. It's very easy to go too far. You have to fight that battle."

An internal battle Bernstein continues to wage is the place of the media. Is the media part of everything or is it there to cover it? As a public personality, he finds himself being prodded into a more outspoken posture.

"Sometimes I think I have answers or I'd like people to understand something better, but I walk a fine line. If I get too grandiose, I'm open to criticism," Bernstein said. His career has been built on making viewers feel comfortable with his personality, his insights and his expertise.

"He hasn't turned off the fan or turned the boxing world against him," Connal said.

Because many fighters and managers appear frequently on ESPN, Bernstein's own analysis is also constantly being scrutinized. "I see guys a lot and sometimes they might hassle me," said Bernstein. "But, you don't want to be silly putty and not say anything bad or overpraise guys."

Bernstein, 36, grew up in the Gage Park area on the Southwest side of Chicago. A speech/mass communications major at the University of Illinois–Chicago, Bernstein made "guest appearances" in college and spent more time as Sports Editor of the school paper.

He left before finishing his degree, but not before creating quite a stir by speaking out (in his weekly column) against racism, sexism and corruption in college athletics.

A sports fan and a participant as a kid, Bernstein, without his mother's approval or knowledge, started boxing as a teenager.

"I felt I needed to do it because I was so interested in it," Bernstein said. "I enjoyed the training—it gets you in great shape." However, Bernstein denies any comeback plans, as ex-fighters often do, but he tries to stay in shape.

As an amateur fighter, Bernstein admits to two losses in some 20 bouts. Bernstein says the ring experience has proved invaluable and in 1978, he wrote a book, BOXING FOR BEGINNERS.

At the time of the book's initial publication, Bernstein was in the midst of a distinguished career with the Chicago-based Lerner Newspaper group (highlighted by an award-winning investigative piece on shady land deals) and freelancing for boxing publications.

ESPN viewers were introduced to Bernstein in 1980, when Bernstein convinced the network it couldn't possibly do a boxing show in Chicago without him. He was allowed to sit in as a third party while Sam Rosen described the action and Thomas Hearns provided the color. Hearns, a better fighter than announcer, became the victim of his own inarticulateness. Rosen leaned heavily on Bernstein that evening and following his debut, he became a regular on the Chicago shows. By mid-1983, Bernstein was the boxing analyst for ESPN.

Connal takes particular pride in the development of Bernstein. "Al Bernstein is a cable baby. He was developed as a cable person, not as a network or broadcasting person. He was a diamond in the rough. He had all the facilities and knowledge, it was just a matter of developing."

Chicago-based cut-man, Laury Meyer, was there for Bernstein's debut and said, "He's come a long way. From a sports announcer he's become an exceedingly knowledgeable professional."

Is there such a thing as an excess of boxing?

"The times I'm not up for it are when I've done too much boxing," Bernstein said. "Four or five shows in eight days. I get burned out, but once I do a show I can't avoid getting wrapped up. Once I get into it, I'm fine."

On those who bad-rap boxing, Bernstein said, "I can appreciate that. It's the only sport where the intent is to hurt the other guy."

Bernstein was ringside in Merrilville, Indiana when Sean Thomas was seriously injured and subsequently died. Bernstein felt badly about the tragedy and advocates the creation of a National Commission to regulate the sport. "It's not uniform," Bernstein said. of the fact that boxing has as many different sets of rules and regulations as there are states.

An internal battle Bernstein continues to wage is the place of the media. Is the media part of everything or is it there to cover it? As a public personality, he finds himself being prodded into a more outspoken posture.

"Ring doctors and referees need to be trained well," he said. "There are more bad refs than good refs. In football, if you make a mistake the worst that can happen is a touchdown. In boxing if you miss a call—a guy can get killed."

"Eight million champs and governing bodies—that's boxing's biggest problem and that dovetails together with the safety problem. But boxing succeeds in spite of itself," Bernstein added.

"We want to see the ultimate challenge in conditions that are acceptable to society," Bernstein said, assessing boxing's eternal appeal.

On his future with the sport, "You can only watch so many guys beat each other up. You have to come to peace with so many issues about it." About the dreaded disease of being stereotyped, Bernstein said, "I've worked hard to be a communicator—it just so happens I cover boxing."

Bernstein is also a singer and debuted his act in Las Vegas over the Hagler-Leonard fight weekend. He also has created two one-woman shows ("not for me" he joked); "Fame" and "A Night Out With the Boys." "I've had this vision of doing a lot of different things and when you get well-known, opportunities come about."

In 1986, Bernstein made his big screen debut in "Streets of Gold," playing, of all things—a boxing announcer.

Outside of boxing Bernstein's interests are eclectic. He's amazed he's been able to concentrate so completely on boxing for the past six years. "I come back to thinking of myself as a writer." He is currently working on two screenplays, one about boxing. □

ASK THE STARS

Ring Magazine's indefatigable editors track down the biggest V.I.P.s in boxing to get answers to readers' provocative questions. If you have a query for a fighter, manager, promoter or anyone in the fight game, write:

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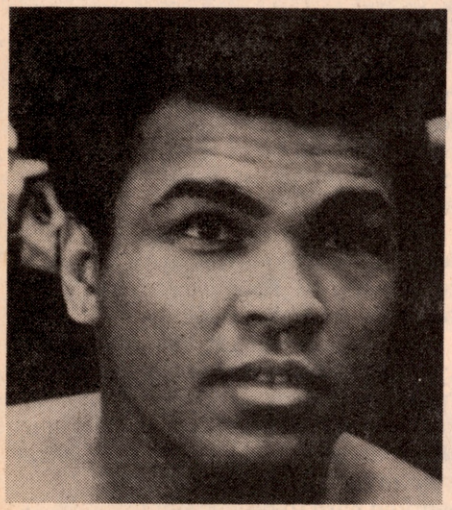
FOR SUGAR RAY LEONARD
World middleweight champion

Q: How come you don't look your opponents in the eye during the referee's instructions?

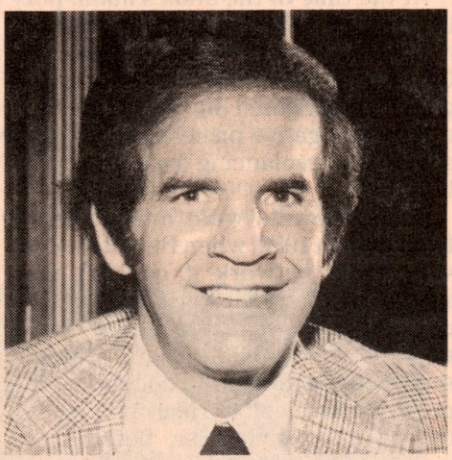
A: I don't want to lose my concentration. The last time I had serious eye contact was with Wilfred Benitez. It's only illusion. In reality, it's really a waste of time.



FOR MUHAMMAD ALI
The Greatest

Q: What do you think of Mike Tyson?
N.G., LONDON, ENG.

A: I just think of how many millions of dollars Mike Tyson and I would have made if I was still fighting. The entire world would want to see us fight each other. We would draw record money and a record audience. I'm very impressed by him so far, but he has not yet met the class of opponents that I fought. I don't see anybody around with the skills to beat him. I would have fought him like I did George Foreman . . . get him exhausted and then open up with my best shots.



FOR MICKEY DUFF
British boxing mogul

Q: Why did you get into managing and promoting?
S.H., BRISTOL, ENG.

A: When my own (boxing) career finished, I quit the game for a time. I had a clothing factory and I did well. I could have stayed in that line, made at least as much money as I could in the fight game—and for a lot less aggravation. But I found that I was missing boxing.

FOR MIKE TYSON
WBA and WBC heavyweight champion

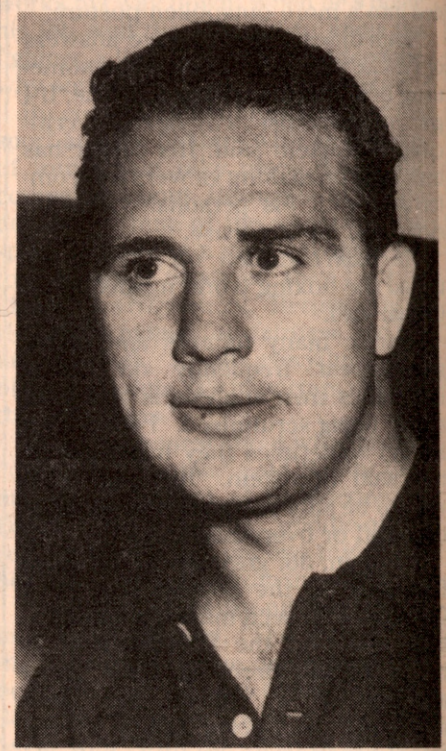
Q: What do you think about all the drug abuse among today's kids?
R.G., LAS VEGAS, NV

A: I've seen the damage drugs can cause. I'll never forget one of my good friends dying of drugs. He knew he was going and said to me, "Mike, you're too special to kill yourself with drugs. It's too late for me, but you mustn't touch them." Now, when I go to schools and rehabilitation centers I tell that story to try to help youngsters say no to drugs.

FOR LARRY HOLMES
Former world heavyweight champion

Q: How much money do you want to fight Mike Tyson?
G.T., HOUSTON, TX

A: I think there's $10 million apiece in this fight. I guess I would fight for $8 million, but not much less than that.



FOR BILLY CONN
Former light heavyweight champion

Q: I guess you're sick of answering this one, but why did you decide to slug it out with Joe Louis when you could have played it safe and boxed your way to the heavyweight title?
J.F., CLEVELAND, OHIO

A: I wouldn't be Irish if I weren't stupid!

RINGSIDE

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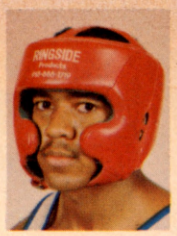

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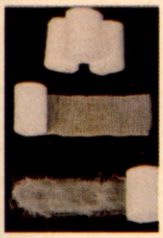

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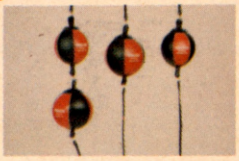

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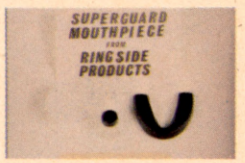

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